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of Berks County, Pennsylvania

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HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL ANNALS

OF

BERKS COUNTY

Pa.

PENNSYLVANIA

EMBRACING

Vol. 1, Pt. 1

A CONCISE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY AND A GENEALOGICAL AND
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF REPRESENTATIVE
FAMILIES

COMPILED BY
MORTON L. MONTGOMERY

IN TWO VOLUMES
ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME I.

CHICAGO
J. H. BEERS & CO.

1909

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BERKS COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA

A CONCISE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY AND A GENERAL
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF REPRESENTATIVE
FAMILIES

MORTON J. MONTGOMERY

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J. H. BERKS & CO.
1900

PREFACE

THE first attempt at the compilation of local history in Berks County was made in 1841 by William Stahle, a storekeeper at Reading. He published a small volume of 68 pages in two editions, one in the English language and the other in the German, entitled "A Description of the Borough of Reading," and it related chiefly to the business affairs of Reading. The book was prepared for him by Jackson H. Sherman, a young lawyer, who had shortly before been admitted to practice in the Courts of Berks County.

The next attempt was made in 1844 by L. Daniel Rupp, of Lancaster. For some years before, he had been engaged in collecting information relating to a number of counties in Pennsylvania which were situated to the east and west of the Susquehanna River, and the result of his persevering industry was published in separate volumes, entitled after the several counties. One of them was the "History of Berks and Lebanon Counties," an octavo volume of 504 pages.

In 1859, Amos K. Strunk, of Boyertown, published a small book of 124 pages, embracing the names of the county representatives and officials who served from 1752 to 1860; and he issued it in two editions, one in the English language and the other in the German, for use as a convenient book of reference. In 1883, the author of the present work published the "Political Hand-Book of Berks County," an octavo volume of 104 pages, which was an enlargement of Strunk's idea, embracing census information of the county, the names of the representatives and officials of Reading, and also census information of Reading, besides the names of the county officials, from 1752 to 1883.

In 1881, Prof. David B. Brunner, a school teacher at Reading for many years, published "The Indians of Berks County," an octavo volume of 177 pages; which related to the aborigines of the county and included many cuts (176), made by himself, of the various relics found in the county; and a revised edition (257 pages) was issued by him in 1897.

The author compiled the following works on local history: In 1886, the "History of Berks County," a royal octavo volume of 1204 pages, for the publishers, Messrs. Everts, Peck & Richards, of Philadelphia, which embraced a comprehensive description and tabulated statements of local affairs, besides numerous biographical sketches of men who were prominent in the industrial, financial, political and professional matters of the county; in 1889, the "School History of Berks County," a duodecimo volume of 300 pages, for use in the public schools of the county as a supplementary reader, which has been used in the local schools since that time; in 1894, "Berks County in the Revolution," an octavo volume of 295 pages, for the purpose of showing what services the people of the county rendered the national government in the establishment of independence; and in 1898, the "Sesqui-Centennial History of Reading," an octavo volume of 298 pages, which embraced a concise narrative of local events and industrial affairs for 150 years, and a comprehensive description of the anniversary proceedings, as an appropriate memorial of the extraordinary occasion.

The volumes mentioned are the works of a general historical nature which have been published of the county. After the lapse of more than twenty years from the time of publishing the large county history of 1886, the author was encouraged by many persons to revise that work by bringing the historical details down to the present time. Arrangements were accordingly made with the publishers of this work to publish it under the title of "Historical and Biographical Annals of Berks County," so as to embrace, besides general history, local biography and genealogy, which in that time had become very important in the estima-

PREFACE

THE first volume of the compilation of local history in Berks County was made in 1881 by William Steele, a student at Reading. He published a small volume of 88 pages in two columns, giving the English language and the story in the German, entitled "Description of the Borough of Reading," and it is a very cheap thing in the history of the county. The book was prepared for him by James H. Stewart, a young lawyer, who had recently before him a number of books in the County of Berks.

The next attempt was made in 1882 by J. Thomas, Esq. of Lancaster. His work was before him had been arranged in a collection of papers, and it is a number of counties in Pennsylvania which were added to the last and part of the Pennsylvania River, and the rest of his interesting history was published in separate volumes, entitled after the several counties. One of them was the "History of Berks and Lebanon Counties," an octavo volume of 264 pages.

In 1886, Anne E. Stevens, of the county, published a small book of 124 pages, containing the names of the county representatives and officials who served from 1793 to 1886; and in 1887 it is in two editions, one in the English language and the other in the German, but we as a county book of reference. In 1888, the author of the present work published the "First Book of Berks County," an octavo volume of 244 pages, which was an enlargement of Stevens' book, containing certain information of the county, the names of the representatives and officials of Berks, and also certain information of Berks, besides the names of the county officials from 1793 to 1888.

In 1891, Fred David H. Hymant, a school teacher at Reading for many years, published "The History of Berks County," an octavo volume of 211 pages, which related to the subjects of the county and included many facts (170), made by himself, of the various tribes found in the county; and a certain edition (187 pages) was issued by him in 1897.

The author compiled the following works on local history: In 1898, the "History of Berks County," a large octavo volume of 1704 pages, for the publisher, Messrs. Evans, York & Richards, of Philadelphia, which contained a comprehensive, systematic and tabulated work, names of local writers, biographical and professional matters of the county; in 1900, the "School History of Berks County," a hundredth volume of 400 pages, for the publisher, Evans, York & Richards, which has been used in the local schools of the county as a supplementary reader, which has been used in the local schools since that time. In 1901, "Berks County in the Revolution," an octavo volume of 202 pages, for the purpose of showing what services the people of the county rendered the nation from the time of the establishment of independence; and in 1902, the "Geographical History of Berks," an octavo volume of 208 pages, which embraced a concise narrative of local events and industrial affairs for 150 years; and a comprehensive description of the county, as an appropriate memorial of the anniversary of the county.

The volumes mentioned are the work of a general historical nature which have been published in the county. After the lapse of more than twenty years from the first of them, the large county history of 1901, the author was encouraged by many persons to do the work by doing the historical events from the present time. It was accordingly made with the intention of the work as published in order to make the work a historical and geographical "Annals of Berks County," as it is entitled, besides general history, local biography and genealogy, which in that time had become very important in the county.

tion of many historical societies throughout the State of Pennsylvania, and their publication in a convenient and permanent form was encouraged by those societies.

Much time has been devoted to the careful preparation of this work in order to produce a compilation which should be recognized for its thoroughness in covering every section of the county. The table of contents relating to the historical annals is comprehensive, and the long list of personal sketches evidences patient inquiry in securing the biographical and genealogical annals; and these taken together will be appreciated by the public generally, as well as by the patrons of the work, as of incalculable value to the people of the county and to the numerous descendants of the First Families who were located in the county before the Revolution. Many of the sketches contain items of history which would not be preserved in any other way. In nearly every instance the data were submitted to those immediately interested for revision and correction.

"Family Reunions" has been a subject of importance to many persons of the county for upward of ten years, and descendants of different families have assembled at certain periods in different places of the county to show respect for their ancestors and to collect biographical and genealogical data. Some of them have been very successful. A chapter on the subject (XIII) has been included in this work, and it is the first attempt in the collection of this particular kind of information. It is to be regretted that many others of the "First Families," of equal prominence, have not also in this time formed reunions and held meetings so as to increase their beneficent social influence in the county and to assist in preserving distinct family records and genealogies.

November, 1909.

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HISTORY OF BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

CHAPTER I--ERECTION OF COUNTY

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

MOUNTAINS.—The Appalachian chain of mountains extends through the eastern territory of the United States from the St. Lawrence river on the north to the State of Georgia on the south. The greatest heights are in North Carolina. There they are between 6,000 and 6,800 feet above the sea. This conspicuous chain includes all the ridges; and two ridges extend through Berks county. They are the Blue Mountain and the South Mountain.

The Blue Mountain, in its course south twenty-five degrees west from the Delaware at Easton to the Susquehanna at Harrisburg, forms the present northern boundary line of Berks county. It was a barrier to migration in the earliest settlements of this section of the State, and it was the limit of the earliest surveys which were made northwestwardly from the Delaware river. The earliest map of surveys, which was prepared by Lewis Evans, and published by him in 1749, is in the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia. Several drafts of earlier dates appear in the first two volumes of the Pennsylvania Archives, and relate to purchases of land from the Indians.

The apex of this mountain undulates. Its average height above the sea is about 1,200 feet. The distinguishing peculiarities in the formation of the mountain in Berks county are the "Pinnacle," the "Schuylkill Gap," the "Round Head," and numerous ravines which were washed out in the mountain-side by rolling waters in the course of time, and came to be useful to man in having marked out for him easy passes over the mountain.

From a distance, the mountain has a bluish appearance. Hence it was and is called Blue Ridge. On one of the early maps it is called the "Kittatinny Mountain," corrupted from the Indian word *Kautatin-chunk*, meaning *endless*. It is also sometimes called North Mountain.

The South Mountain extends through the county southeastwardly. It enters about the middle of the western boundary, near the corner-stone of the dividing line between Lancaster and Lebanon coun-

ties. At this point it is distant from the Blue Mountain about fifteen miles. It is called South Mountain because it lies *south* of the Blue Mountain. The distance between them increases as they diverge eastwardly. At Reading it is about twenty-three miles. The highest point in this mountain is near the county line in Lebanon county, on a spur extending several miles southwestwardly. Its height is about twelve hundred feet.

In the southern section of the county, this mountain has a greater width. It includes a succession of rolling hills, almost entirely covered with growing trees. Some portions have been cleared and converted into farming lands. This district, being thus covered and having the appearance of a forest, is called "The Forest." The "Welsh Mountain" and the "Flying Hills" are included in this range.

The "Flying Hills" extend along the southerly side of the Schuylkill river for several miles. They comprise a small ridge broken by gorges, and were given this name by the early settlers because numerous grouse were seen *flying* there. They are indicated on an early map of 1743, and from that time till now they have been so known and called. They can be seen and identified for forty miles down the Schuylkill Valley. From afar they resemble great monuments, and they were famous for game until about 1860. Of the gorges mentioned, the "Gibraltar" is the most remarkable and picturesque.

Numerous hills are scattered throughout the county, which subserve the agricultural districts admirably in respect to wood and water. Their natural arrangement and distribution are wonderful. The cupidity of man is, however, gradually breaking up this harmony of nature by cutting down the trees and tilling the land.

In the western section, the most conspicuous hills are "Stoudt's Hill," located at the great bend of the Schuylkill, about six miles north of Reading (named after the owner of the land), and "Scull's Hill," distant about five miles farther to the north (named after Nicholas Scull, the surveyor-general of the province from 1748 till 1761).

In the eastern section, the county is considerably broken by intersecting hills which extend in different directions, mostly, however, to the north and south. The "Oley Hills" are most conspicuous in a *historic* aspect. They are mentioned in patents and deeds of lands before 1720. Since 1783 the most prominent hill in that vicinity has been called "Earl Mountain," because it was cut from Oley and included in a new township of that name then erected. The "Monocacy Hill," cone-shaped, is situated several miles southwardly, near the river.

The "Reading Hills" are the most conspicuous in the central section in a *natural* aspect. They were included in the "Manor of Penn's Mount," a large tract which was set apart for the use of the Penns before the erection of the county, and included about twelve thousand acres. The hill known by the citizens of Reading as "Penn's Mount" adjoins the city on the east. To the north and west its elevated top commands a magnificent view of the Schuylkill and Lebanon Valleys, which are especially rich in agriculture, manufactures and internal improvements; and it overlooks an area of territory including about five hundred square miles. It has two conspicuous spots at the apex, facing the west, which are called "White Spot" and "Black Spot." They are visible to the naked eye for a distance of thirty miles, and were so called by the first inhabitants of Reading. Their general appearance does not seem to change; they are bare spots on the hillside, composed of stones and rocks. The "White Spot" is the nearer and more accessible. It has been for many years, and is still, resorted to for stones for building purposes; and it is frequently visited also by resident and stranger for the view it commands. The removal of the stones gives the spot a white appearance. Time and the weather are not given an opportunity to darken the surface of the stones. The "Black Spot" was not disturbed till 1889, when the Mt. Penn Gravity Railroad was constructed, and the "Tower" erected on the top; hence its black appearance. Their elevation above the Schuylkill river at the foot of Penn street is as follows: White Spot, 767.64 feet; Black Spot, 879.78 feet. The elevation of the higher point above the sea is about 1,100 feet.

The hill known as the "Neversink" adjoins the city on the south. Its highest point is somewhat lower than Mt. Penn. It commands a magnificent view of the Schuylkill Valley to the southeast for forty miles, and of "The Forest" to the south and southwest for upward of ten miles. It overlooks the double bend in the river, which forms a large S, both projections being mostly farming land; the one extending northwardly being known as "Lewis's Neck" (from the first settler there), and the other southwardly as "Poplar Neck" (from the great poplar trees) for more than one hundred and fifty years. This hill lies east and west and forms, with Mt. Penn, a large T. Its northern declivity is rather gentle, but the southern steep and rugged. It has been known by the name of "Neversink"

for many years. It is mentioned in surveys of adjoining land which were made as early as 1714.

An interesting, though ridiculous, tradition is connected with its origin. It was said by early settlers that an Indian had devised a flying machine, by which he proposed to fly from the one hill (Flying Hill at Poplar Neck) to the other and "never sink." His efforts proved a failure. Instead of flying into fame he sank into shame. The word is of Indian origin, "Navesink," and means fishing-ground. The Schuylkill river in this vicinity was formerly a famous fishing-ground for shad. Fisheries were carried on successfully until the construction of the canal about 1820.

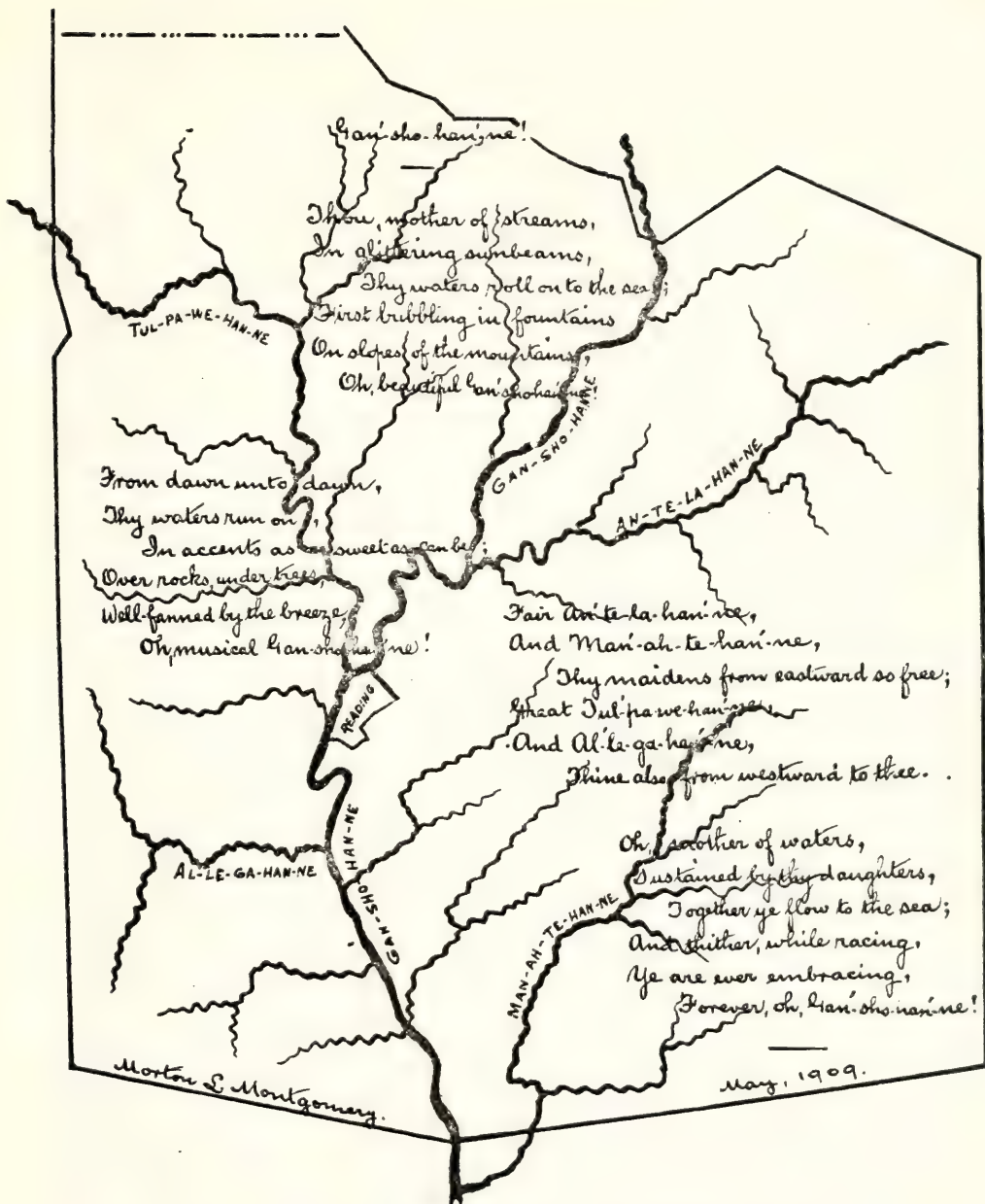
"Schwartzwald" is situated several miles to the east. It was included in the "Manor lands." The woods are dark and like a forest. This name was given by the early settlers in commemoration of their native place.

"Irish Mountain" is near the center of the county. It is prominent and overlooks the Schuylkill Valley from the Blue Mountain to the South Mountain, especially the fertile lands which adjoin the Maiden creek and its tributaries. The early settlers round about were mostly Germans. They named the hill after English settlers who had located or rather "squatted" there. The language and manners of the latter were more or less objectionable to them, and they among themselves entertained contempt for the intruders, and in conversation called them the "Irish."

"Spitzenberg" is a cone-shaped hill near by the Pinnacle. Its peculiar shape makes it conspicuous. It is not as elevated as the mountain to the north.

VALLEYS.—Nature has arranged the earth's surface within the borders of Berks county in a superior manner. Its rolling character, interspersed with hills and mountains, and intersected by numerous irrigating rivulets and streams, renders it most admirable for successful cultivation with ordinary labor. The well-directed energy and enterprise of the farmers have enriched and improved it to a wonderful degree.

A depression in the central portion of the county extends from the Blue Mountain on the north to the boundary line on the southeast, a distance of thirty-two miles. It resembles an L irregularly drawn. It is called "Schuylkill Valley," and takes its name from the meandering river that flows through its bosom. It is not distinguished for width. Above Reading it is rather open, below rather confined. Valleys enter it on the east and on the west. The most conspicuous of the eastern valleys are the Maiden-creek, the Antietam, the Monocacy and the Manatawny; and of the western, the Tulpehocken, the Wyomissing, the Allegheny, and the Hay-creek. All take their names from the streams which flow through them. On both sides they begin at the extreme limits of the county, excepting the Antietam and the Monocacy, which begin in the central portion.



NOTE.—Gan'sho-han'ne, meaning "the mother of waters," is the Indian name for the Schuylkill river. The Dutch name, Schuylkill, means hidden stream, the outlet of the Schuylkill flowing into the Delaware river being so wide as not to be observable.

The Schuylkill is the principal stream of Berks county, with important branches—Ontonagon and Manatawny, flowing into it from the east, and Tulpehocken and Allegheny from the west. They together flow into the Delaware river below Philadelphia, and thence into the Atlantic ocean.

Together these valleys present a remarkable conformation. They distribute the water supply equally. Their depression is from the limits of the county toward the center, with a southerly inclination. The principal valley has the lowest points of the county from the northern limit to the southern. The limits on the east, west and south are watersheds to a great degree; inside the waters flow inwardly, but at the lines and outside they flow outwardly—on the east into the Lehigh river and Perkiomen creek, and on the west and south into the Swatara creek and Conestoga creek, which empty into the Susquehanna river. These valleys, therefore, gather all the waters within the county and direct them into and through its territory for the great benefit of its industrious inhabitants before they allow them to depart.

Berks county occupies the central portion of the large district, in area forty-six hundred square miles, which lies between the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers. The plan of distribution of valleys and waters between these rivers is marvelous, and the leaders in the movement for the erection of the county in this large body of land displayed remarkable foresight and knowledge in obtaining such boundary lines.

The Tulpehocken Valley forms the eastern section of the Lebanon Valley, the Swatara Valley (which extends westwardly through Lebanon and Dauphin counties) the western section. These two valleys together are about fifty-four miles long, and they take the name of Lebanon Valley from the town which occupies the highest point midway.

There are other valleys, but they have only a local character and take their names from the respective streams which flow through them. There are several gaps in the county, but the Schuylkill Gap in the Blue Mountain, where the Schuylkill river enters, possesses the most marked features.

STREAMS.—Springs are the great sources of all streams. They arise mostly in the mountains and elevated portions of country, and supply all the streams in Berks county, almost the entire quantity flowing from numerous springs which are situated within its borders. This is exceptional; for comparatively little water is drained from the adjoining counties into Berks county, but a great quantity is drained from Berks county into all the adjoining counties, excepting Schuylkill county on the north. This indicates that the borders of Berks county are higher than the surrounding territory.

Bethel township, in the northwest, is entirely drained by the Little Swatara creek into the Swatara, and the waters pass through Lebanon and Dauphin counties into the Susquehanna river. Caernarvon township, on the south, is entirely drained by the Little Conestoga and Muddy creeks, into the Conestoga, and the waters pass through Lancaster county into the Susquehanna river. A part of Union township, on the southeast, is drained by French creek, and the waters pass through Chester county into the Schuylkill river. Considerable

parts of the eastern townships (Colebrookdale, Washington and Hereford) are drained by Perkiomen creek, and the waters pass through Montgomery county into the Schuylkill. And the greater part of Longswamp township on the northeast, and the remaining part of Hereford, are drained by the Little Lehigh into Lehigh river, and the waters pass through Lehigh county into the Delaware river.

The streams of the county are numerous. They irrigate every section and contribute much to the natural fertility of the soil. The most conspicuous feature of the water system is the Schuylkill river. Streams flow into it from the east and from the west, and the territory on each side, thus supplied, is about equal in area. On the eastern side, beginning in the upper section, they are 1, Windsor; 2, Perry; 3, Maiden creek (which has two principal tributaries flowing into it, both on the east—Moslem and Sacony); 4, Laurel Run; 5, Bernhart Run; 6, Rose Valley run; 7, Antietam; 8, Monocacy; and 9, Manatawny (which has two principal tributaries flowing into it—the Ironstone from the east, and the Little Manatawny from the west). Of these, the Maiden creek and Manatawny are especially large. The Bernhart run and the Antietam (formerly, for a time, known as Ohlinger creek) have been entirely appropriated by the city of Reading for a municipal water supply.

On the western side they are 1, Mill creek; 2, Irish creek; 3, Tulpehocken; 4, Wyomissing; 5, Angelica; 6, Allegheny; 7, Hay creek; 8, Sixpenny; and 9, Mill creek. Of these, the Tulpehocken, Wyomissing and Hay creek are especially large.

All the streams mentioned afford valuable water-power. They attracted the attention of the early settlers of the county and their inexhaustible supply was fully appreciated, having been appropriated immediately by the settlers, and turned to account in running gristmills and iron forges. Many of the early deeds on record relate to this.

Schuylkill.—The word Schuylkill is of Dutch origin and means Hidden creek, or Skulk creek. The Dutch named the river when they took possession of the land about its mouth. The outlet is very wide and deceiving, and appears to be a part of the Delaware river instead of being a tributary. By some persons it is said to be of Indian origin, but this is not correct. The name given to it by the Indians was "Ganshowehanne," which means a roaring or falling stream. Rupp says they called it "Manajung," which means mother. The river rises in Schuylkill county. It flows generally in a southeasterly direction and traverses the State for a distance of one hundred and twenty-five miles, until it empties into the Delaware river at Philadelphia. It has many important branches which flow into it on the east and on the west, from its source to its mouth. These contribute much to the physical and productive welfare of the southeastern section of the State. Together they drain a very large area of territory.

The important branches are the following: On the east, beginning in the north: 1, Main Branch; 2, Little Schuylkill (formerly called Tamaqua); 3, Maiden creek; 4, Manatawny; 5, Perkiomen; and 6, Wissahickon; and on the west: 1, West Branch; 2, Bear creek; 3, Tulpehocken; 4, Wyomissing; 5, French creek; and 6, Pickering. Each is conspicuous for length and large flow of water; and in a general way they are about equal in these respects. This harmony in their proportions is wonderful. The earliest drafts show the Maiden creek, Manatawny and Tulpehocken, which indicates that the surveyors regarded them of more than ordinary importance. The Schuylkill is not only the grand trunk of this system of water, but it occupies the central line of the territory in which this system is arranged.

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE.—The county of Berks lies in the lower central portion of the North Temperate Zone, between 40° and 41° North Latitude, and between $\frac{1}{2}$ ° and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ° East Longitude, reckoning from Washington.

RELATIVE ELEVATIONS.—The following statement exhibits the elevation, above mean ocean tide, at Philadelphia, of the several places in Berks county, and other places out of the county, as compared with Reading, in different directions. The figures to the left of the places indicate the distance in miles from Reading, and those to the right, the elevation in feet.

	READING	
Seventh and Penn Streets	265 feet	
Foot of Penn Street	198 feet	
Miles		Feet
17	NORTH	
	Hamburg	372
35	Pottsville	611
	Tamaqua	800
	NORTHEAST	
18.5	Topton	482
36	Allentown	254
	EAST	
	Manatawny	189
	Boyetown	386
	Barto	466
	SOUTHEAST	
9	Birdsboro	170
18	Pottstown	147
41	Norristown	72
58	Philadelphia	25
	SOUTH	
13.6	White Bear	346
19.2	Joanna	624
	SOUTHWEST	
8.5	Fritztown	469
10	Deep-Cut	570
35	Lancaster	369
45	Columbia	261
	WEST	
15	Womelsdorf	453
28	Lebanon	463
54	Harrisburg	318

IRON ORE.—The mining of different ores was carried on quite extensively from the beginning of the settlements in Berks county, particularly iron and copper. The former of these was mined in

connection with the manufacture of charcoal iron. Rich deposits were found at many places within the limits of the county, and became a great source of profit to miners and manufacturers. These deposits were mostly in the townships of Cumru, Alsace, Oley, Ruscombmanor, Colebrookdale and Caernarvon, and along the East Penn Valley.

In 1880 the Census Report placed Berks county third in the list of ore-producing counties in Pennsylvania, and seventh in the United States. The iron ore produced in that year was 252,940 tons and over one hundred mines were in successful operation. The character of the ore was primitive and hematite.

COPPER ORE.—It is believed that copper ore was found in the southern section of the county before 1700. Subsequently, a tract of one thousand acres of land came to be owned and occupied by David Jones, in 1735, and he mined large quantities of copper ore, causing the locality to be known from that time until now as the "Jones Mines." No statistics have been published relating to it. It was operated at different times afterward for nearly one hundred and fifty years.

CLAYS.—A number of beds of clay have been found and worked in recent years, which are described in the several townships where the operations have been carried on.

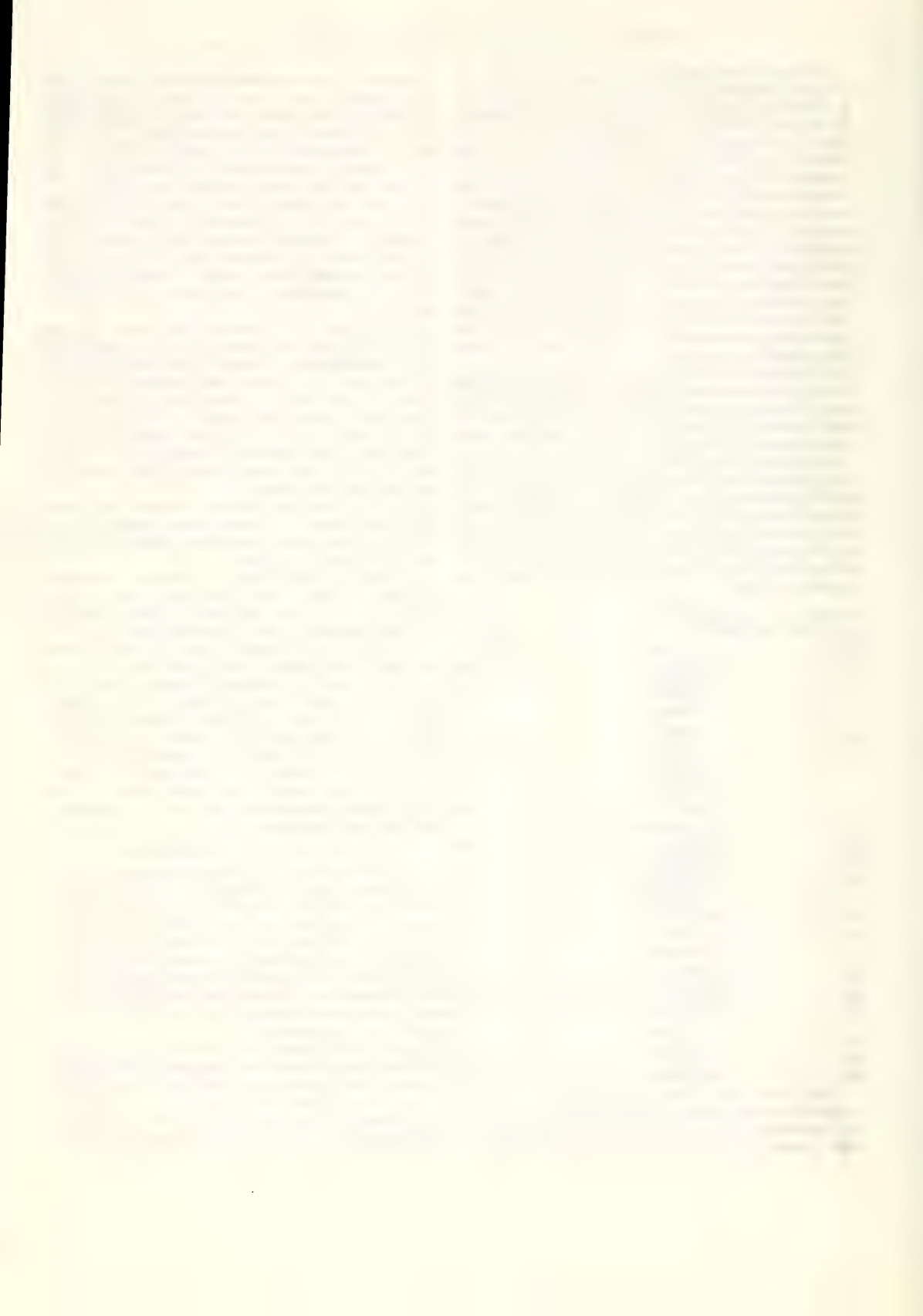
MINERALS.—Prof. David B. Brunner (prominent educator of Berks county for many years) tabulated a list of the minerals found in the county and this list comprises seventy different kinds.

GEOLOGY.—A geological survey of Pennsylvania was made from 1836 to 1857 by the State, and this immediate section, including Berks county, was found to contain four principal strata, which extend through the county from northeast to southwest. By a published map it appears that the *slate* formation covered nearly the upper half of the county, or four-tenths; the *limestone*, the central section, or three-tenths; the *white sandstone*, the lower central, or one-tenth; and the *red sandstone*, the lower, or two-tenths.

CONDITIONS OF TERRITORY

When the province of Pennsylvania was granted to William Penn by Charles II., King of Great Britain, in 1681, no township or county organizations existed within its limits. But the arrival of Penn was the dawn of government, progress and civilization, and within a month afterward he caused three counties to be laid out—Bucks, Chester and Philadelphia. County government then began, and county representation in the Provincial Assembly was inaugurated.

During this period, thousands of immigrants came into the province and effected permanent settlements; and each succeeding year found them farther removed from the county-seats of the counties named. They proceeded up the courses of streams mostly. Very few followed the streams from their sources to their outlets. Only one col-



ony came from New York overland, and this was nearly fifty years after the settlements had begun, and the government had been given a fixed character. Nearly all landed at Philadelphia; and thence the great majority proceeded toward the interior districts and the head-waters of streams. This is particularly the case with the Schuylkill river and all its tributaries.

The settlements between the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers were numerous before 1700. Every decade thereafter found them farther northward from the Wissahickon to the Perkiomen, from the Perkiomen to the Manatawny, and from the Manatawny to the Maiden creek. And so they proceeded between the Schuylkill and Susquehanna rivers.

Gradually those who had settled in the interior districts toward the mountains began to feel the inconvenience and expense incident to their location. They were compelled to travel, regardless of roads or weather, to the county-seat far removed from their settlements, and to haul their goods many miles to the market before they could realize any value for the products of their hard manual labor. Naturally they felt inclined to improve their condition. A county organization was the first step toward accomplishing this object, as well to bring the county-seat into their midst as to create a market near by for the disposition of their produce.

But, notwithstanding the numerous settlements and the large population in the great district of territory east of the Schuylkill and south of the Blue Mountain, no additional counties were erected before 1750. It was different to the west of the Schuylkill. The tide of immigration seems to have been greater in that direction. They did not have the natural facilities to enable them to reach their county seat in Chester county, as the settlers had in the districts to the east of them, which lay in Philadelphia and Bucks counties. In 1729 they induced the Executive Council to separate them from Chester county and erect their settlements into a new county, which they called Lancaster.

During the first quarter of the eighteenth century many immigrants proceeded to the right into Perkiomen Valley along the West Branch, and into Oley Valley along the Manatawny and its tributaries. These were mostly Germans; some were English, and others Swedes. Other immigrants, mostly Welsh, proceeded to the left into Conestoga Valley. The settlements for miles on both sides of the river were mostly confined to the south of the succession of hills commonly called South Mountain. This was especially the case to the right. In this district of territory the settlements were then known by the names "Amity," "Oley" and "Colebrookdale." But to the left, a small settlement of Germans had taken place in the Tulpehocken Valley, the enterprising settlers having come down the Susquehanna river from New York, and migrated eastwardly to the head-waters of the Tulpehocken creek; and another settlement, of English

(commonly called "Friends") and Welsh, had taken place along the Allegheny and Wyomissing creeks. These settlements were known by the names "Tulpehocken" and "Robeson." An earlier settlement to the south was called "Caernarvon." Accordingly, during the first quarter of that century, six distinct settlements in this vicinity had come to be formed and recognized.

During the second quarter, the way for settlements north of the South Mountain was opened by the purchase of the territory from the Indians. The Friends were the first to enter the new district to the right of the river. They took up large tracts of land along the Ontelaunee, called by them Maiden creek. Many Germans followed immediately afterward. And to the left, many Germans, Friends, and Welsh were added to the settlements along the Tulpehocken, Wyomissing and Allegheny creeks.

Improvements were carried on with great energy and success throughout the great valleys which lay between the South Mountain and the Kittatinny Mountain (sometimes called "North," but commonly "Blue Ridge"). New districts were formed to encourage local government and to facilitate intercourse. To the right they were called Douglass, Exeter, Ruscombmanor, Alsace, Maxatawny, Maiden-creek, Richmond, Longswamp and Allentown; and to the left, Heidelberg, Bern, Cumru, Bethel and Brecknock. Altogether, till 1750, the districts were twenty in number. This was the territorial situation of the settlements in this section of the province toward the close of the second quarter of the eighteenth century.

The settlers had provided themselves with meeting-houses and schools for their religious and secular education. In this respect they had exhibited commendable zeal. The German population predominated; consequently, the preaching and teaching were mostly done in the German language. But the Friends were not backward. They were prominent in Oley, Exeter, Robeson and Maiden-creek; and their schools were distinguished for excellence.

Manufactures were carried on everywhere; spinning was a common, if not a necessary employment in every household. Wearing apparel was home-made; carpenters, masons, blacksmiths and shoemakers were in every locality; and iron ore mines and furnaces and forges were in operation to the north, south, east and west.

The great highways were comparatively few, the most prominent public road being the Tulpehocken. It extended from the Tulpehocken settlement in the west, in a southeasterly direction, *via* the ford across the Schuylkill (now the site of the Penn street bridge at Reading) and Pine Iron Works, to Philadelphia. From this ford a prominent road extended to the north, on the eastern side of the river, called Maiden-creek road; and another to the south, on the western side, called Schuylkill road.

This point of concentration naturally attracted attention toward this locality as a practicable place for a town-site. Elsewhere, for many miles round about, there was no town, not even a village; and there were then apparently no steps toward founding either. But just as the settlers had labored for years to establish a county out of the surrounding territory, similar efforts were expended for a town here.

PETITIONS FOR COUNTY

The first efforts for the establishment of a new county out of the upper sections of Philadelphia and Lancaster counties, adjoining the Schuylkill, were made in the latter part of 1738. On Jan. 13th, of that year, the Lieutenant-Governor of the province laid before the Council two petitions addressed to him—one from the inhabitants of Providence, Limerick, etc., in Philadelphia county; and the other from the inhabitants of the northeast side of the county of Lancaster (with a map of the Province of Pennsylvania)—praying that a new county may be bounded as by the dividing lines in the said map, for that they labor under great inconveniences and damage by reason of their distance from the courts held at Philadelphia and Lancaster, and for many other reasons in the said petition mentioned; which were read and ordered to lie on the table for further consideration. The first petition has not been found; but a copy of the other is in the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, and it includes the names of 172 subscribers, of which the first 61 were Welsh, the others Germans.

In May, 1739, the Lieutenant-Governor addressed a message to the Assembly, in which he referred to these petitions, but the Assembly took no action. The petitioners waited patiently for six years without any progress in the matter; then they forwarded another petition, renewing their request for a new county. It was read to the Council, "and their case being thought proper to be recommended to the Assembly, the same was done," in a message similar to the first. The Assembly ordered it to lie on the table. It was signed by John Potts, Henry Harry, William Bird, Francis Parvin and numerous other inhabitants.

On Jan. 14, 1745, a similar petition was presented, in which the petitioners (the persons named "in behalf of themselves and a great many other inhabitants") prayed "that their former petition might now be considered." It was read and ordered to lie on the table. The next day (15th) it was again read, but referred for further consideration. In two weeks afterward (on the 30th), another "petition from a considerable number of inhabitants of Philadelphia and Lancaster counties, praying to be set off into a new county," was presented, read and ordered to lie on the table. On Feb. 28, 1745, sundry persons appeared before the House and urged the matter of the erection of this

new county, but the matter was dropped for five years more.

In the mean time settlements had been extended westwardly and northwestwardly beyond the Susquehanna river. York county was erected on Aug. 19, 1749, and Cumberland county on Jan. 27, 1750, both out of the westerly part of Lancaster county. This successful action on the part of the German settlers west of the Susquehanna awakened a new interest in behalf of the new county between the Susquehanna and the Delaware; for, some months afterward (May 7, 1750), a petition was presented and read, but again it was not effective. If they were then disappointed, they were not discouraged. Their determination prepared them for another effort. A year afterward, they tried it again. They caused their petition to be brought up before the Assembly Aug. 16, 1751, and read a *second* time; but it was "referred to the consideration of the next Assembly."

When the next Assembly met, these earnest petitioners were on hand. They prepared the way by presenting still another petition, Feb. 4, 1752, which represented—

That they were inhabitants of Reading-town, upon the Schuylkill. That they had settled in the said town, expecting that it would be a great place of trade and business, and had put themselves to vast expenses in building and removing thither with their families, several of whom had left tolerably good plantations; that though the said town had not above one house in it about two years ago (1750), yet it now consisted of one hundred and thirty dwelling-houses, besides forty-one stables and other out-houses; and that there were one hundred and sixty families, consisting of three hundred and seventy-eight persons, settled therein; that they had good reason to believe that in another summer they would be much increased, as the chief part of the province that could be settled was already taken up, and the settling of the town would be of great benefit to tradesmen and others who are not able to purchase tracts of land to live on; that they humbly conceived it their interest, to the honorable proprietaries as well as to themselves, and that unless this House would be pleased to erect part of the counties of Philadelphia, Chester and Lancaster into a separate county, they should be entirely disappointed in their expectations, notwithstanding all the cost and trouble they had been at; they therefore prayed that this House would take their case into consideration and grant them relief by erecting such parts of said counties as they should think most proper into a new county, with the same privileges that the other counties of this province enjoyed; and that the seat of judicature should be fixed within the said town of Reading.

And on the following day (5th) another petition was presented, in which they stated that

Although their grievances were laid before the Assemblies of this Province several years past, and their petition again renewed at the last sitting of the Assembly, yet as they find the causes of their complaint still growing, they humbly beg leave further to represent that they are settled at a very great distance from the place of judicature, many of them not less than one hundred miles, which is a real hardship upon those who are so unhappy as to be sued for debts, their charges in long journeys, and sometimes in severe weather, with the officers' fees, amounting to near as much, if not more, than the debts; that the hardships on jurymen, consta-



bles, etc., in being obliged to attend when required, is also very great; that now there is a new town laid out by the Proprietaries' Order, within fifteen perches of the division line between Philadelphia and Lancaster counties, and above one hundred and thirty houses built, and near as many families living therein; it is very easy for rogues and others to escape justice by crossing the Schuylkill, which has already been their practice for some years; that, though their grievances when laid before the Assembly some years past were not redressed, because of other weighty affairs being at that time under consideration, yet the prayer of their petition was thought reasonable, and the number of petitioners being since doubled by the increase of the back inhabitants; they therefore pray that this House would grant relief in the premises, by erecting them into a separate county, bounded as to the wisdom of the House shall seem best.

In pursuance of the reference, the petition was read on the 5th, and referred for the next day. The 6th arrived and it was read again and referred. On the 12th, the same proceedings were had. And finally, on the 13th, the monotony of reading and reference was broken; for then the House, after having considered the petition, and also the petitions from Reading, "*Resolved*, that the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill pursuant to the prayer of their petition."

On that day, some of the petitioners presented themselves before the House and desired leave to be heard respecting the bounds which they understood the House proposed for a new county in case it should be granted. Their objections were heard; and, after answering such questions as were put to them, they withdrew.

On the 18th, the bill was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table. On the 19th, it was read a second time, considered paragraph by paragraph, and, after some debate, ordered to be transcribed for a third reading. On the 20th, it was read a third time, and, upon the question that the bill do pass it was ordered to be given the Governor for his concurrence. After some consideration and amendments, the Act was finally passed on March 11, 1752. So, after the lapse of fourteen years, the zeal and persistent efforts of the petitioners were at last crowned with success. The Act specified the name of the county to be "*BERKS*," fixed the boundary lines, authorized the erection of county buildings for the public service, and gave the inhabitants the customary powers of local government, etc.

Surveying Commissioners, appointed in the Act (Edward Scull of Philadelphia county, Benjamin Lightfoot of Chester county, and Thomas Cookson of Lancaster county), made a survey of the boundary lines of the new county extending them as far as the Susquehanna river, which was then the limit of settlements.

The settlers, soon ascertaining that the lines were run, then extended their settlements rapidly

farther on; which caused complaints to arise, because the adjoining counties claimed and exercised the right of levying taxes on the inhabitants and their property along the lines.

An Act was therefore passed on February 18, 1769, which authorized three commissioners to run the lines between Lancaster, Cumberland and Berks counties on the west, and between Northampton and Berks counties on the northeast, by actual survey, and extend them in a northwestwardly course as far as the lands extended which were purchased from the Indians by the Proprietaries in 1768.

The territory to the east of the Schuylkill river was taken from Philadelphia county, and that to the west from Lancaster and Chester counties. The estimated area of the county, as at present bounded, from each of them is as follows:

	Acres
Philadelphia county	280,000
Lancaster county	238,500
Chester county	7,500
	<hr/> 526,000

DISTRICTS AT ERECTION.—At the time of the erection of the county there were twenty districts or townships, and taking the river as the natural dividing line, they were as follows:

EASTERN DIVISION

Albany	Longswamp
Alsace	Maiden-creek
Amity	Maxatawny
Colebrookdale	Oley
Dougllass	Richmond
Exeter	Ruscombmanor

WESTERN DIVISION

Bern	Cumru
Bethel	Heidelberg
Brecknock	Robeson
Caernarvon	Tulpehocken

BOUNDARIES OF COUNTY.—The county is bounded on the northwest by Schuylkill county, the Blue Mountain forming a natural boundary line in length about thirty-six miles; on the northeast by Lehigh county, the line extending S. 49 degrees E., twenty-four miles; on the southeast by Montgomery county and Chester county, the line along the former extending S. 33½ degrees W., sixteen and one-fifth miles, and the line along the latter, S. 53 degrees W., eleven and a half miles; and on the southwest by Lancaster county and Lebanon county, the entire line extending N. 49½ degrees W., thirty-nine miles, along the former county nineteen miles, and along the latter twenty miles.

The population of the new county at the time of its erection cannot be approximately estimated. It may have been about twelve thousand.

FIRST ASSESSMENT, 1754

EASTERN DIVISION

Districts	Tax Levied	Tax-ables	Collectors
Albany.....	£ 15 1s. 6d.	63	Cornelius Treiss
Alsace.....	17 14 6	59	
Amity.....	45 9 6	139	John Webb
Colebrookdale....	23 4 6	81	Nicholas Isch
Douglass.....			
Exeter.....	31 2 6	85	Jacob Wiler
Greenwich.....	22 3 6	75	Frederick Mayer
Hereford.....	24 15 6	69	Benedic Leesser
Longswamp.....	25 6 6	82	Frederick Helwig
Maiden-creek....	21 5 6	56	Paul Rodarmell
Maxatawny.....	31 6 6	82	Andrew Hanck
Oley.....	50 6 6	115	John Hill
Reading.....	36 16 6	140	Christopher Witman
Richmond.....	18 19 6	56	Abram Kiefer
Ruscombmanor....	14 10 6	55	Anthony Peck
Windsor.....	28 16 6	101	Leonard Reeve
Total	409 6	1,256	

WESTERN DIVISION

Bern.....	£ 52 10s. 6d.	168	Jacob Reesser
Bethel.....	17 14 6	69	Nicholas Wolf
Brecknock.....	6 3 6	27	Henry Brandlie
Caernarvon.....	5 18 6	23	
Cumru.....	27 10 6	94	John Morris
Heidelberg.....	44 13 6	127	Leonard Grow
Robeson.....	17 11 6	73	Ephraim Jackson
Tulphocken.....	84 3 6	284	Christopher Weiser
Union.....	14 4 6	41	Thomas Pratt
Total	270 9	906	

BEYOND BLUE MOUNTAIN

Brunswick.....	£ 10 18s.	56	Francis Yarnall
Pine Grove.....	3 16 6	29	Nicholas Long
Total	14 14 6	85	

EXPLANATIONS

Alsace.—Tax collector same as Reading.
 Caernarvon.—Tax collector same as Union.
 Douglass.—Established in 1736, included with Amity.
 Brunswick and Pine Grove had not yet been established as Districts, but the taxable inhabitants there were assessed.

Assessment made after erection of the county, the additional districts having been established and recognized in the meantime.

FIRST TAXABLES.—The following lists show the names of the taxables as they appear in a record recently found. It is believed that the Assessment was made in the year 1752 or shortly afterward by direction of the Commissioners for the purpose of levying the necessary tax to carry on the local government; but 1754 has been set in at the head of the preceding table as the year when it was probably prepared, the Commissioners having in the meantime doubtless taken the assessment made of the districts in the original counties as a guide until they were enabled to put the legal machinery in proper motion. It will be noticed that seven additional districts came to be recognized since the

erection of the county (Greenwich, Hereford, Reading, Windsor, Union, Brunswick and Pine Grove). This is the first time that the names of these taxables were published, and no attempt was made to correct the improper spelling in many instances as reported by the several assessors.

ALBANY

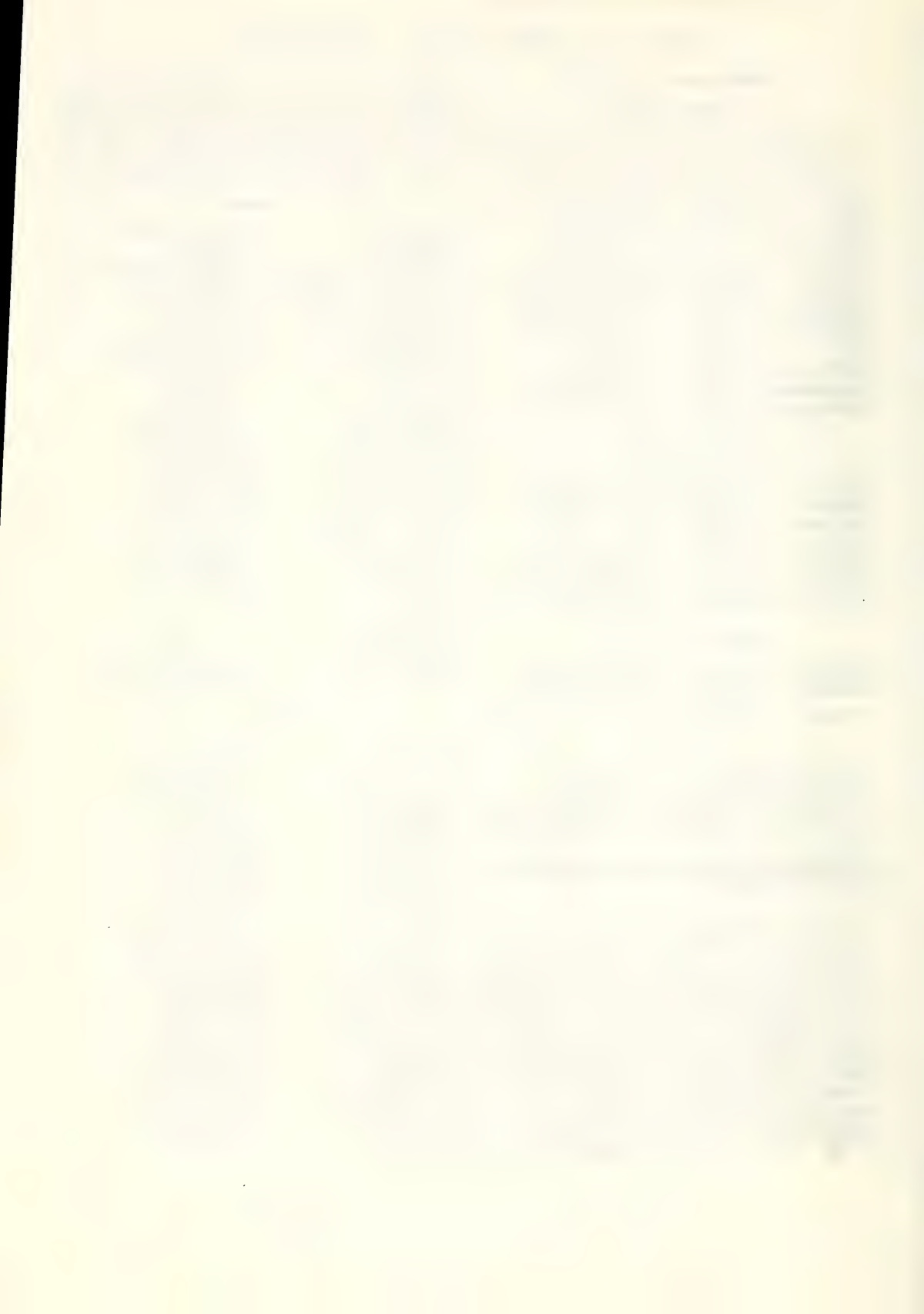
Anthony Adam	Michael Mowner
John Bailly	Casper Nigh
Arnold Bittick	Valentine Peter
Adam Boose	Anthony Petershimmer
Geo. Orchard Bomgartner	Michael Probst
Andrew Haign Bug	Martin Probst
John Creeker	Felty Probst
Christopher Celphack	Nicholas Ratick
George Cleanman	Henry Reifeldorfer
Philip Coogler	Frederick Rickelderfor
John Michael Corker	Henry Ritter
Jacob Cuntz	Jacob Stam
Adam Druan	William Smader
Nicholas Emrich	William Stamp
William Farmer	Philip Stampack
Julius Flack	Tobias Stapleton
Casper Foolweiler	Nicholas Strawser
George Gorner	Daniel Smith
Jacob Hacker	Christopher Swing
George Hard	Peter Treese
Christian Heffeler	Henry Treese
Christian Henrick	Simon Treese
Michael Herbester	Cornelius Treiss
Frederick Hower	Andreas Wenner
Jacob Jarkmer	Nicholas Wenner
Martin Keffer	John Witt
John Kesler	Henry Zimmerman
Peter Kistner	
Jacob Lantz	
George Lember	
George Lentz	
Frederick Mensel	
John Miller	

Single Men

Nicholas Milderberger
 Solomon Packerman
 Adam Stalcr

ALSACE

Jacob Backer	John Lamer
Henry Baker	Jacob Lansiscus
Peter Bingham	George Lora
Detrick Bittleman	Casper Millhouse
Dewalt Boem	Baltser Moon
George Born	Christian Morian
John Close	George Nees
Herman Dehaven	Peter Norgong
Jacob Delaven	William Null
Mathias Drenkle	Conrad Pop
Simon Drisebogh	Philip Reaser
John Eabling	Adam Reiffel
Michael Fether	Rinehard Rorebaugh
Michael Fisher	Christopher Spangler
Adam Garrett	Adam Swasbogh
Henry Garrett	Jonas Seely Esq.
Rudolph Garrett	Ernst Seydel
Leonard Glaser	John Smeck
Frederick Goodhart	Bolser Swenck
John Haberacker	Peter Smith
Philip Hadlick	Henry Snider
Jacob Heidelshoe	Victor Spice
George Heir	George Sowerbeir
Samuel High	Stephen Shlunacker
Barnard Keller	Adam Wagoner
Conrad Keller	Lawrence Winsel
Christian Kinsey	Henry Wolf
George Kline	Francis Yost
Mathias Knip	Nicholas Yost
John Kuip	



AMITY

Rinehard Abershan
 Abram Andrew
 Daniel Andrew
 Mary Antis
 Jacob Arly
 Philip Jacob Bakel
 Thomas Banfield
 Thomas Barnard
 Joseph Boone
 Moses Bower
 John Boyer
 John Boyer
 Nicholas Boyer
 Thomas Bromfield
 James Burn
 Andrew Busserd
 Samuel Busserd
 David Cambell
 John Campbell
 Godfrey Cassebe
 Derick Cleaver
 Balster Creesman
 John Child
 Michael Cogel
 John Colter
 Lawrence Cooper
 John Close
 Jacob Crust
 Bridget Davis
 Cornelius Dehart
 Marg't Dehart
 Edward Doughty
 Edward Drury
 Francis Eckerman
 Aaron Epler
 Lodwic Eisey
 Morris Ellis
 Daniel Fraley
 John Fretz
 Lodwic Filingier
 George Adam Fisher
 John Fye
 Francis Gibson
 Ellis Griffith
 John Griner
 Lodwic Gowger
 John Hammer
 George Hansleman
 Rowland Harris
 Adam Hatfield
 Joseph Holoway
 Martha Howard
 Michael Huffman
 Andrew Huling
 John Hulings
 Marcus Huling
 Jonas Jones
 Nicholas Jones
 Peter Jones
 Felty Keely
 John Kerlin
 Peter Kerlin
 John Klinger
 Simon Lightner
 Peter Livergood
 Daniel Lodwick
 Jacob Long
 John Lowrow
 George Lutts
 William Macky
 Patrick Magwire
 Stin Mayberry
 Hugh McCaffery
 Michael Messinger
 Hugh Mitchell
 Mathias Mould
 Jacob Naugle
 Philip Near
 Martin Pekar
 Walter Price
 John Potts
 John Powell
 Adam Reed
 Andrew Reingberry
 Jacob Roads
 Leonard Rodermel
 Barnabas Rhoads
 John Rutter
 Abijah Sands
 John Sands
 Balster Sris
 George Shedler
 John Ralph Snider
 George Stinger
 George Swiger
 John Taylor
 Joseph Thomas
 Michael Trump
 Henry Vanreed
 Jacob Waren
 James Waren
 John Waren
 Jacob Weaver
 Peter Weaver
 John Webb
 George Adam Weidner
 Isaac Weisman
 Stophel Wigel
 Daniel Will
 Elisabeth Williams
 William Winters
 Fredrick Wombach
 Daniel Womelndorff
 Peter Yoacam
 John Yocam
 Jonas Yocam

Single Men

Michael Berfenstone
 Jeremiah Boone
 Solomon Bromfield
 Hugh Caain
 Solomon Davids
 William Davis
 Adam Drinkout
 Joshua Evars
 Alexander Gey
 James Hickley
 Samuel Hughes
 Mountz Jones
 Valentine Lightner
 Henry Martin
 Nicholas Meissner
 Peter Jesse Minker
 Valentine Morte
 Fredrick Stone
 Joseph Wallick
 Daniel Walter
 Joseph Williams
 William Williams

BERN

John Abler
 Christian Albrecht

Jacob Albrecht
 Jacob Appler

Valentine Appler
 Jacob Allwine
 Christian Althouse
 John Althouse
 Ulrick Bakenstove
 Jacob Bayler
 George Belloman
 George Benter
 Christian Berger
 David Brecht
 Adam Boone
 Philip Boyer
 John Bugs
 Jacob Burkey
 Jacob Burkey Jun'r
 Christian Byler
 Nicholas Clay
 Jacob Conrad
 Hans Curtz
 Titus Denning
 Jacob Dilman
 Mathias Dombach
 Benedic Domma
 John Ebbert
 John Eleman
 Adam Eiler
 John Faust
 Christian Fight
 John Fight
 Christian Fisher
 Hieronimus Fisher
 Philip Foust
 Jacob Fox
 Fredrick Frum
 Christian Furry
 George Gernant
 Eberhard Geshwind
 Jacob Gicker
 David Grim
 Jacob Grim
 Jacob Grim
 Jacob Good
 Abram Haas
 John Haas
 Jacob Hackley
 Lawrence Hansel
 Peter Harpine
 Jacob Hartzler
 William Hatrick
 Yost Heck
 Jacob Heck
 Hieronimus Henning
 John Hester
 Yost Hester
 Valentine Himmelberger
 Jacob Hochstutlar
 Peter Hofman
 Nicholas Holler
 John Holly
 John Hufinan
 Jacob Jeis
 Paul Junger
 Christian Kaufman
 Isaac Kaufman
 Jacob Kaufman
 Jacob Kaufman
 John Reabert
 Benedic Keper
 George Kershner
 Martain Kershner
 Christian Kershberger
 Henry Ketner
 Peter Krebiel
 Henry Kicker
 Christian King
 Samuel King
 Peter Kliae

Stephen Kurtz
 Hans Lantz
 Widow Leib
 Michael Lindemoth
 George Loose
 Valentine Long
 William Lymister
 George Magner
 Jacob Mayer
 Philip Magemer
 Jacob Mast
 John Meat
 John Megemer
 Fredrick Meyer
 George Miller
 Jacob Miller
 John Miller
 Nicholas Miller
 Simon Mink
 Valentine Mogel
 Jacob Neis
 Lodwic Nicholas
 Joseph Obald
 Casper Philips
 Peter Radinbach
 Ulrich Radmacker
 Jacob Reeser
 Adam Rickenbach
 Nicholas Rime
 Philip Jacob Rode
 John Runkle
 Nicholas Runcle
 Sebastian Rutt
 Barnard Shartly
 Henry Staly
 Jacob Stain
 Adam Stam
 George Schall
 Albright Strauss
 Lodwic Seaman
 Martain Specht
 John Sieber
 Conrad Snider
 John Snider
 John Snider
 Samuel Spilbert
 Nicholas Souder
 John Shock
 Yost Shoemaker
 Philip Strouse
 Adam Stoudt
 John Stout
 Martha Stoudt
 Michael Stout
 Christian Stutzman
 Jacob Stutzman
 John Tomlinson
 William Tomlinson
 George Tripner
 Baltas Urlebavious
 George Wagoner
 Herman Weaver
 Mathias Weaver
 Jacob Weidman
 George Weidman
 Andrew Weiler
 Jacob Wetzler
 Christian Kurtz Willets
 James Williamson
 Andrew Winter
 Samuel Wollason
 Barnhard Wommer
 Nicholas Wommer
 Christian Yoder
 Christian Yoder Jun'r
 Jacob Yoder
 John Yoder

John Young
Roland Young
Joseph Zollberger
Christian Zoog
Moritz Zoog
Hans Zimmerman

Michael Zuber
Single Men
Henry Reeser
Peter Suefer
Christopher Winter

BETHEL

John Apple
Christian Bartorf
John Adam Bartorf
George Berger
Henry Berger
George Beschore
Thomas Boyer
Adam Daniel
Jacob Dene
Peter Detrick
John Eichgelberger
Martin Eichgelberger
Martin Eisenhocker
Balster Emrich
John Emrich
Jacob Emrich
George Emrich
Leonard Emrich
John France
Conrad Further
Nicholas Gebhart
George Groff
Michael Groff
Michael Groseman
Lorentz Haucks
Christopher Herold
Martin Kapler
Christopher Knebel
Andrew Kremer
Henry Kowbel
John Kuncle
Adam Kussel
Francis Leyenberger
Jacob Leviner
David Marks
Nicholas Marks

Peter Mayer
Rudy Moyer
Chrissel Newcomer
William Parsons Esq.
Peter Pickler
Nicholas Poncius
Wendel Reeger
George Reninger
Christopher Rier
Nicholas Seaman
Martin Speck
Werich Selher
Jacob Seiser
Casper Snavely
Daniel Sneider
Ulrick Spice
Wendel Sivert
Detrick Sixth
Andreas Smith
Baltser Smith
Charles Smith
Jacob Smith
Bastian Stone
Henry Shuhin
John Shuy
Fredrick Trester
Martin Trester
John Adam Walborn
Michael Weiland
Nicholas Wolf
Jacob Zerbe

Single Men

Teeter Marcle
Peter Leening

BRECKNOCK

John Ahtonberry
Henry Brandle
Adam Belmer
Christian Betz
Daniel Comer
Daniel Cuper
John France
Adam Fellbon
Jacob Fry
Valentine Fry
John Hemick
Lodwick Herman
Peter Holler
Charles Hornbery

Adam Housh
John Loy
Lawrence Lyfred
Francis Marshall
William Moore
Adam Niduc
Henry Ourwaser
David Pealer
Peter Sharman
Baltser Snider
Michael Slougy
Leopold Yost
Jeremiah Zemer

BRUNSWICK

John Adams
Burgoon Bird
Valentine Bomgartner
Abram Bowlebaugh
John Bushe
John Costnits
Stephen Coufman
George Crowl
John Clouser
Peter Conrad
Michael Dewer
Thomas Ellas

John Fincher
George Fitchime
Jacob Fudge
John Green
Adolph Henry
George Honsinger
Michael Humble
Paul Hyme
John Jones
Joseph Jordan
Philip Kinder
Henry Kitner

Daniel Ladec
Nicholas Miller
Henry Miller
Adam Miller
Daniel Milberger
George Mock
Polser Nifong
Michael Platner
Barnabas Purtese
John Rersh
Sylvanus Robinson
Moses Robeson
Joseph Rue
Jacob Rust
Jacob Shafer
John Starrett
Richard Stevens
George Sheffer

John Brackin
Michael Close
John Davis
John Dobbins
Robert Ellis
John Farn
Francis Fisher
James Fisher
Nicholas Hudson
James James
Daniel Jones
David Jones
Valentine Kirby

Andrew Asshenbach
John Backer
Jeremiah Bacon
Francis Beally
Conrad Beam
Fredrick Bettenman
Casper Brocke
David Bookert
Casper Bowman
Jacob Buckwalter
Michael Cline
Peter Clingersmith
Jacob Cunez
Michael Deiner
Peter Erett
Fredrick Erne
Philip Fissel
Adam Gerber
John Gerber
Frederick Goss
John Goulden
Harpine
Jacob Haucke
Stephen Hauck
Herp
Rudolph Hover
Nicholas Isch
George Joseph
Fredrick Kehler
David Kepler
Peter Kill
Jacob Klodz
Conrad Leachlinder
Hans Adam Link
Deobalt Long
Peter Lulber
Nicholas Mathias
Jacob Mattis
Jacob Miller
Conrad More
Paul Moser
Tobias Mouck

Jacob Shearman
Peter Smelker
Barnabas Sidle
Hantester Switese
Nicholas Timmerman
George Webb
Thomas Willits
George Widener
Francis Yarnall

Single Men

Wm. Anderson
Conrad Creebaum
Joseph Lodwic
John Sheaver
John Willits

CAERNARVON

Jacob Light
John Light
Christian Long
William Low
Ruth Morgan
Mark Pealor
Aaron Ratow
William Robinson
John Witson

Free Men

Christian Longs

COLEBROOKDALE

Emanuel Pifer
Thomas Potts
Widow Potts
Peter Pyfer
John Adam Reidener
Casper Rickert
Mathias Rode
Conrad Roudie
Paul Rutter
Thomas Rutter
Thomas Sehone
John Sleagle
George Schwinharth
Hermanus Sossamanhou
Michael Spots
Daniel Stover
Lawrence Shuller
Jacob Tongler
Rudolph Totterolph
Mathias Tutrow
Wagoner
Bernhard Wanmacker
John Werstler
Thomas Willson
Charles Wise

Single Men

George Church
John Wollrick Dumari
Henry Eagle
John George Eagle
Erasmus—(tailor)
Francis Gerleck
Jacob Machline
Valentine Machline
John Negrom
John Pile
Anthony Spaez
Peter Shene
Thomas Walker

CUMRU

Jacob Ashman
John Best
Martin Briner
Christian Bowman
Jacob Bowman
Francis Creek
Jacob Cloward
Michael Crowl
Nicholas Cour
Martin Colber
John Davis
James Davis Sen'r
Wm. David
James Davis
Elisabeth Davis
John Dealy
John Dealy
David Edwards
Joseph Evans
David Evans
David Evans
Nathan Evans
George Englehart
John Englebrown
Jacob Ecoy
Sam'l Emry
Henry Freytle
Jacob Frymire
Geo. Hague
Conrad Hart
Henry Harry Esq.
Andrew Hicman
Adam Household
Tho's James
Wm. Jones
Michael Laph
James Lewis
Geo. Lewis
Rich'd Lewis
Eleanor Lewis
John Little
Widow Loyd
George Mawra
Geo. Minder
Lodwick Moon
Werner Moon
John Moon

John Morris
Morgan Morgan
Peter Munich
Tho's Nicholas
Henry Olslofi
Ino. Geo. Pak
Tho's Paine
Evan Price
John Pinclay
John Pugh
Michael Rood
Geo. Roleman
Peter Rood
Jacob Rood
Matis Ryton
Henry Staupher
Francis Steal
Jacob Stealy
Jonathan Stephen
Casper Stever
Adam Sigler
Mich'l Shoemaker
Peter Shoup
John Stole
Wm. Thomas
Evan Thomas
Peter Weidner
John White
Sam'l Wilkinson
Warner Wisel
Casper Wineman
Jacob Worst
Philip Worstloff
Isaac Young

Single Men

Evan Evans
James Goudye
Peter Hause
Wm. Howell
Thomas James Jun'r
Nicholas Kilion
Daniel Murphy
Thomas Perkins
Peter Penon
Thomas Weaver

EXETER

Martin Alstatt
Nicholas Alstatt
Jacob Bacly
Fred'k Baker
John Bishop
Adam Bouman
Joseph Boone Jun'r
James Boone
William Boone
Benjamin Boone
Jacob Boyer
Christopher Boyer
Joseph Browne
Peter Cime
James Cooper
Paul Durst
Rowland Ellis
Enoch Flower
Martin Gerich
George Henton
John Hecler
Rudick Hecler
George Hest
Jacob Hesterly

Peter Hewett
Ellis Hughes
Samuel Hughes
John Hughes
Edward Hughes
Leonard Hye
Henry Kerner
Henry Kersten
Michael Keister
Nicholas Kime
John Lark
Isaac Levan
John Lebo
Michael Lodwic
William Maugridge
Valentine Messersmith
Martin Moll
John More
Ulrick Moore
Michael Mure
John Ourhawn
Benjamin Parks
Robert Patterson
George Ritter

Ferdenand Rutter
Francis Rutter
George Rutter
William Russel
Widow Sadler
Peter Sneider
John Stitzel
Mathias Teetler
Henry Thompson
James Thompson
Michael Turlings
Martin Walls
Peter Waffer
Widow Wagener
Venal Wawl
John Webb
Jacob Wiler
Christian Wicks
Adins Williams
Henry Wolf

Henry Aspbach
Lawrence Beaver
Jacob Beel
Melchior Beele
Geo. Bouman
Fredrick Bower
Adam Bower
Widow Buzzard
Rudy Buzzard
Philip Callback
George Creamer
Fredrick Cremer
Godfrid Cremer
Simon Derek
John Duncle
Philip Foust
Jacob Foust
Leonard Fox
Jacob Grenoble
Nicholas Gotshall
Fredrick Hairn
Peter Haucke
Simon Isenberger
Gabriel Iseuberger
Peter Kardenginger
John Keller
Mathias Keffer
John Keel
Philip Kerker
Daniel Kline
George Komp
George Koser
John Kooler
Mathias Lay
Peter Lenard
Michael Leshar
Fredrick Levey's Widow
Geo. Mich'l Liver
Jacob Liver

John Arts
Nicholas Bachtle
John Blank
Abram Besler
Simon Bennet
Peter Betz
George Brindle
John Boyer
Andreas Boyer
Henry Boyer Sen'r
Henry Boyer Jun'r

Paul Zerleafel

Single Men

Peter Beckley
John Boone
George Cross
Nicholas Herner
Fredrick Keller
George Keller
William Kirbe
Joseph Kirbe
Jacob Koop
Abram Levan
Mordecai Lincoln
George Messersmith
Peter Nol
John Stadwiller
Henry Shlieg
John Thompson
Martin Vesner
John Wainright

GREENWICH

John Long
Daniel Manusmith
Fredrick Mayer
George Miller
Charla Palmer
Henry Polender
Mathias Reamer
Geo. Wm. Reel
Conrad Reigleman
Anthony Starren
Adam Staup
Fred'k Shallaberager
John Seseman
Henry Sheafver
Rudolph Sear
John Sweeney
Jacob Sittlemier
Michael Smith
Nicholas Shoemaker
George Spone
Peter Suttas
Daniel Teer
And'w Unaugust
Mich'l Undercuffeler
Jacob Wery

Single Men

Jacob Adam
Christian Baum
Martin Beeker
Abraham Clease
Conrad Dennis
Adam Foust
Conrad Kefner
George Keller
Henry Miller
Jacob Sheffer
George Swinger

HEIDELBERG

Adam Bonevitz
Adam Brown
Michael Bush
Frantz Brustman
Nicholas Clat
John Cowbel
Fredrick Cowbel
Andrew Croff
Thomas Davis
Christian Deby
George Derr

John Desler
 John Henry Dickert
 John Ditter
 Casper Durst
 Eleazor Evans
 John Echarde
 Peter Eberly
 Conrad Erast
 Christ Frantz
 Peter Feg
 Leonard Feg
 William Fisher
 John Jacob Fisher
 Henry Fidler
 Philip Fitzmier
 Peter Fitzer
 Conrad Finck
 Yost Fox
 Peter Foust
 Anthony Foust
 Henry Fry
 Fredrick Gerrard
 Leonard Grow
 Henry Haines
 Fredrick Haines
 Hans Christian Haines
 George Haines
 Peter Haines
 Casper Haines
 Adam Haines
 Peter Haus
 Henry Hetterick
 Martin Heddorn
 Yost Hederick
 William Johnson
 Jacob Kern
 Valentine Keyser
 John Keller
 John Klinger
 Peter Knop
 Jacob Kuhl
 Henry Kruber
 Casper Lerg
 Martin Link
 Paul Lingle
 John Martin Long
 George Louck
 Michael Lower
 Nicholas Martin
 Dietrick Marshall
 Melchor Mehl
 Ulrich Michael
 Christian Miller
 Fredrick Miller

Hans Moyer
 Catherine Mountz
 George Nagle
 Peter Newman
 John Melchor Norr
 Bastian Obaldt
 Michael Oberhauser
 Martin Pattinger
 Tobias Pickle
 Henry Printz
 Peter Pricker
 Gabriel Razar
 William Reeser
 Nicholas Reed
 Peter Reedly
 Ulrich Richard
 Nicholas Rool
 Conrad Sharp
 Detrick Shall
 Casper Shaffer
 Nicholas Shaffer
 Jacob Sencebach
 Michael Smell
 Thomas Stierns
 Adam Short
 Philip Stort
 Catherine Stronekin
 Michael Shower
 Adam Shower
 John George Shock
 Adam Spohn
 Henry Spohn
 William Spotz
 Henry Sturt
 John Surby
 Henry Sugar
 John Stump
 Peter Werner
 Balser Wendrick
 Mathias Wendrick
 Philip Weiser
 Conrad Weiser Esq.
 Lazarus Winnert
 Nicholas Weinhardt

Single Men

Lodwick Durr
 Jacob Fox
 Peter Fry
 Henry Klasner
 — Rudolph
 Henry Stort
 Peter Werlau

HEREFORD

Thomas Bansfield
 Abram Beightle
 George Beightell
 John Beightle
 Michael Bower
 Abram Bower
 Samuel Bower
 Martin Craden
 Valentine Crasmore
 David Coley
 George Cones
 Valentine Delinger
 Jacob Evener
 Nicholas Fink
 Jacob Fisher
 Christian Gamman
 John Gregory
 Richard Gregory
 Philip Heiney
 Francis Latchor
 Benedic Leeser & Brother

Fredrick Mason
 David Masters
 Gregories Master
 Sophia Mayberry
 George Mercele
 Jacob Miller
 White Miller
 Adam Moser
 Peter Mull
 Fredric Nesler
 Andrew Oldman
 Conrad Pope
 Conrad Popp
 William Rickert
 John Ridenour
 George Rorebach
 Jacob Rosman
 George Sailer
 Michael Shell
 Theodore Schneider
 Widow Stoneman

Daniel Stover
 Jacob Stover
 John Stopp
 Benedic Stroom
 Christopher Shultz
 Melchor Shutts
 Martin Sturtsman
 Mason Tark
 Peter Teddrolfe
 Melchor Wagoner
 Jacob Walter
 John Walters
 Peter Weller
 Jacob Welssel

Valentine Wibell

Single Men

George Bawer
 Leonard Crasemer
 Jacob Creesmer
 Richard Gregory Jun'r
 John Godfrey
 John Latcher
 Philip Lawr
 John Meene
 Casper Meyers
 Henry Routh
 Philip Routh

LONGSWAMP

Christian Abenshen
 Jacob Bard
 Michael Beeber
 Jacob Beery
 Nicholas Beringer
 Frederick Boffenmoyer
 Henry Bollinger
 Martin Boger
 Jacob Buger
 Samuel Burgher
 Philip Burgher
 Baltus Cleafer
 George Cumb
 Jacob Danner
 Henry Delong
 John Diehl
 Mathias Eigener
 John Egg
 Philip Emert
 George Falk
 Barnard Fegely
 Jacob Fenstermacher
 Philip Fenstermacher
 John Flamer
 Samuel Fogel
 Frederick Helwig
 Christian Henry
 John Hess
 Jacob Huffman
 Martin Hurcher
 Jacob Hum
 Nicholas Jacoby
 Dewalt Karl
 George Keplinger
 Jacob Kieffer
 Frederick Kieffer
 Nicholas Kintz
 Bernhart Klein
 Dewalt Klein
 Henry Knoblich
 Lorentz Lofor
 Jacob Long

Jacob Long
 Nicholas Long
 Nicholas Martz
 Peter Martz
 Joast Mertz
 Henry Mentz
 Andreas Mihslegel
 Mathias Morell
 Michael Mothstein
 Michael Nederaur
 Inias Noel
 Peter Putser
 Peter Redler
 George Severt
 George Shaffer
 Andreas Sharley
 Frederick Sheffer
 Christian Shick
 George Shroder
 Michael Shroder
 Henry Strickler
 Nicholas Swartz
 Henry Tear
 Conrad Treiss
 Frederick Ulry
 Jacob Wimer

Single Men

Anthony Abal
 John Agner
 John Cline
 Melchoir Danner
 Jacob Drollinger
 Adam Gary
 Philip Heesner
 Adam Helwig
 Philip Hen
 Martin Ibert
 Michael Jacobs
 Elias Klenler
 Peter Kline
 Michael Long

MAIDEN-CREEK

John Barger
 Stephen Barnett
 Anthony Brest
 Melchor Clinefelter
 Jacob Dipra
 George Flagly
 Pheliz Franfelter
 Michael Feller
 Philip Fitzsimons
 Rudy Hoy
 John Hutton
 James Hutton
 James Jordan
 James Kays
 Thomas Kirby

Jacob Lightfoot
 Leonard Mire
 Edward Moran
 Godfred Orby
 Francis Parvin Esq.
 Thomas Pearson
 Richard Penrose
 Joseph Penrose
 William Penrose
 Elias Read
 John Reeser
 Jacob Richard
 Paul Rodarmell
 Moses Star
 Moses Star Jun'r

Merick Starr
Urban Shettle
John Sook
Philip Wax
Nully Whee
Henry Willits
John Wily
John Wily
Single Men
Peter Ax
Simon Bargerb
Thomas Barger
Fredrick Christian
Barnabas Curree

MAXATAWNY

Conrad Bader
Christopher Bader
Christian Bader
Peter Braun
Dewey Braun
John Beever
John Beever
George Beever
Dieter Beever
Peter Benier
Anthony Bensinger
Rudolph Bergy
Abram Berling
John Bost
Lodwick Buss
Michael Creasman
Michael Cline
Henry Christ
Widow Curtz (Kutz)
Fredrick Delaplank
John Delong
Peter Dick
Peter Delong
Anthony Fisher
Urban Frickell
Henry Graull
Jacob Graull
Jacob Gircadin (Sharaden)
Lorentz Groin
William Groff
William Gross
Nicholas Harmony
John Hartman
Andrew Hauck
Conrad Heninger
Michael Henninger
John Hergenroeder
John Hill
John Hostader
Widow Huttenstein
Dewalt Kemp
Julius Kerper
Casper Killrain

Robert Dicky
Martin Housman
Jacob Housman
Owen Hughes
Peter Kirby
B. Parvin
Francis Parvin Jun'r
Jeremiah Starr
James Starr
John Starr
George Seere
Casper Stroal
Benjamin Wiley

Jacob King
Dorst Kursner
George Kutz
Jacob Kutz
Daniel Levan
Jacob Levan
Sebastian Levan
Henry Lukenbill
Conrad Manusmith
Nicholas Muffy
Casper Reap
Christopher Ruth
George Sassman
Andrew Sassman
Casper Smack
Martin Sick
Joseph Sickfred
John Sigfred
Jacob Sigfred
Jost Henry Sossamanhous
Henry Wetzstone
Peter Will
Casper Wink
Sabastian Zimmerman

Single Men

George Bauder
Joseph Bridle
Ulrick Bruner
Phillip Croul
Nicholas Dehoe
Andrew Fridle
Peter Fock
Jacob Flober
William Hauck
Philip Hen
Henry King
Jacob Kumerer
Michael Man
Michael Steinborn
George Shriber
Peter Weiler

OLEY

Conrad Arnold
John Barto
Abram Bartolet
Fredrick Bartolet
John Bartolet
John Bechtold
George de Benneville
Gabriel Boyer
George Brown
Nicholas Clemmons
Casper Creesmer
Jacob Deplank
John Dorke
Mordecai Ellis
Jacob Engle

John Fredrick
Conrad Fisher
William Foulk
John Gelbach
Casper Gregory
Fredrick Gulden
Samuel Gulden
Peter Harpel
Jonathan Harpine
Peter Herpine
Samuel High
John High
Jacob Hill
Michael Hiller
Henry Hose

Benjamin Hufnail
Valentine Hufnail
John Hunter
Nicholas Hunter
Adam Ingboden
George Katesen
Jacob Kaufman
Simon Kraus
John Kegel
John Keplinger
Widow Kersten
Jacob Kime
Widow Kime
Samuel Lee
Thomas Lee
Anthony Lee
John Lee
John Leshar
Nicholas Leshar
Abram Levan
Fredrick Limebach
Henry Limebach
John Limebach
Peter Lobach
Benjamin Longworthy
Jacob Loutz
Nicholas Matery
Peter Mathew
Jacob Miller
Henry Neunkersch (New-kirk)
George Oyster
Abram Peter
Peter Priel
William Pott Jun'r
Conrad Reif
Stephen Report
Valentine Rice
Widow Richard
Christian Ripple
Leonard Shaffer
John Stapleton
William Stapleton
Henry Shefer

Jacob Barger
John Bresler
Mathias Erickle
Christopher Bollinger
Willpart Compant
Leonard Conrad
John Donder
Nicholas Eshway
Philip Graver
Michael Gimberle
Christopher Hedrick
Henry Kline
Andrew Kockendorfer
Lodwick Kornmer

PINE-GROVE

Nicholas Long
Jacob Miller
George Miney
George Miney
John Most
Casper Newfong
Martin Potaker
George Rith
Philip Small
Jacob Stealy
George Six
Peter Smith
Jacob Shope
Philip Summer
Nicholas Youngblood

READING

William Armon
William Armald
Peter Baum
Marks Beek
James Biddle
Peter Bingham
Joseph Brintlinger
Jacob Bolde
Earhard Bomgartner
Jacob Boocher
Conrad Bowser
Henry Boyle
Abram Brosius

Fredrick Brown
Samuel Cays
Martin Craft
John Curtz
John Crul
Conrad Deboy
Fredrick Degohard
George Devil
George Dom
George Douglass
Ludwic Emlan
Andrew Engle
Hieronimus Eigelberger

Peter Feather
Michael Fighthorn
Lawrence Fix
Charles Friken
Fredrick Foland
George Gisler
Henry Goodhart
Christopher Gotschall
Bastian Growser
Joseph Hank
Philip Hart
Peter Haus
Henry Hawn
Craft Heiner
Moses Heyman
Michael Hollich
Peter Holtzseider
Samuel Hude
William Huttenstone
William Iddings
Paul Iselore
Israel Jacobs
Evan Jones
Casper Kepperlin
Jacob Kern
Abram Kerper
Christian Kimro
Alexander Klinger
Peter Klinger
Peter Kooch
Peter Kop
Martin Kost
John Knorr
Paul Lebo
Jacob Leibbrook
Christopher Lemon
Benjamin Lightfoot, Esq.
John Margen
George Marks
William Marks
Everhard Martin
Jacob Masoner
Henry Medcalf
Baltser Meyerly
David Meyerly
William Miller
Jacob Morgan
Jacob Moyer
Philip Nagle
Tidrick Parlet
Benjamin Pearson
Paul Perlet
Michael Prest
Nicholas Pick
Jacob Pick
Derst Pister
John Philippi
Evan Popkins

Jacob Rabolt
James Read, Esq.
John Ream
Josiah Rees
Henry Reidmeyer
Michael Renner
John Richards
Earhard Roade
Michael Rouch
Leonard Rupert
Philip Sailer
Joseph Shamo
Nicholas Seysinger
Adam Sheck
Adam Slegel
George Steel
Henry Shier
Abram Smith
John Smith
Peter Smith
George Scwerpry
Nicholas Shofart
Michael Spot
George Shuler
George Shulf
Tobias Wagner
Peter Weiser
Isaac Wickersham
Fredrick Windish
Adam Witman
John Wittman
Lodwic Wittman
Christopher Witman
George Wonder
Adam Wordenberger
Jacob Yager
George Yoe
Nicholas Yost

Single Men

Christian Busse
David Fox
William Graff
James Gibbins
Stephen Haveracker
George Isenbeis
Peter Momah
Christian Mourer
Lyon Nathan
John Readinger
David Rine
John Rose
Conrad Sigtor
Bernhard Shisser
Mathias Souermilk
Michael Shun
Andrew Wolf
Martin Young

RICHMOND

Michael Adam
Peter Adolph
Jacob Breon
Peter Biel
Henrick Burget
William Cowwood
Jacob Dreblepiss
Henry Dilbon
Christopher Disher
Henrich Edle
David Ely
Abram Ely
Conrad Fogelfender
John Glas
Peter Grenewald
Henry Heffner

Michael Hesler
Michael Hessely
Daniel Hoy
Jacob Huttenstone
Henrick Kelkner
George Kern
Abram Kiefer
Peter Merkle
Nicholas Merckel
George Merckle
Conrad Miller
George Nutes
George Olinger
Baltas Reim
Michael Revert
John Riel

Peter Roder
John Rodermeil
Christian Roterinel
George Sheffer Jun'r
Michael Steinburner
Christopher Shlegel
Peter Spim
Philip Suntz
Martin Wanner
Michael Weiman
Fredrick Zirr

Single Men

George Michael Derr

James Bird
Josiah Boone
Walter Burk
Jacob Bychle
John Cadwallader
France Colony
Jacob Cough
Henry Cough
Garrett Dewese
Cornelius Dewese
Stephen Douty
George Dycass
Feltz Eamse
Isaac Edwards
Christopher Ergate
Enos Ellis
Christopher Freat
David Garrad
Richard George
Christopher Giger
John Griffith
Philip Hart
Marg't Harris
William Harvot
Michael Hewet
David Howel
John Howman
Widow Hoyle
Hudson Hughes
Owen Humphrey
Ephram Jackson
Evan Jones
Thomas Lewis
Peter Liking
Robert Long
Samuel Mooney
John Moore
Richard More

Peter Diltbene
Paul Hoorman
David Kamb
Martin Kamb
John Kamber
Jacob Lupfer
Christian Merkle
Casper Merckle
John Rany
Jacob Shoemaker
Christopher Wanner
Conrad Wolf

ROBESON

Jenkins Morris
James Nox
Jacob Overdear
Thomas Pew
Elias Redkey
Jacob Redkey
Griffith Rees
Israel Robeson
John Scarlet
Adam Shaver
Samuel Seely
Robert Stewart
William Sowers
George Sowers
Fredrick Stoner
Willetrick Stoner
William Talman
Thomas Thomas
Thomas Thomas
John Thomas
David Thomas
Benjamin Williams
George Windle
Henry Winterberry

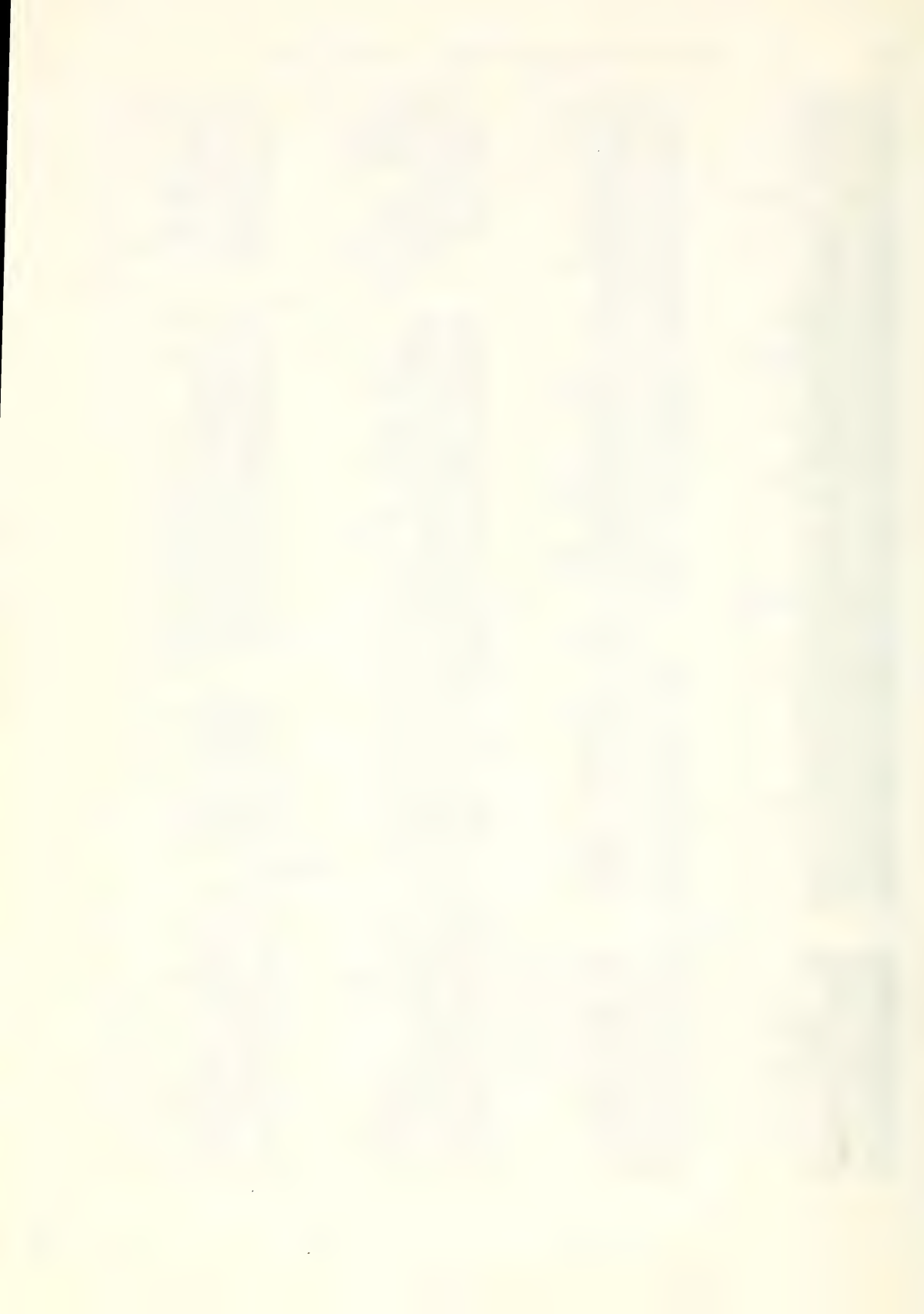
Single Men

Andrew Allen
James Cadwalader
Joseph Dowdle
Thomas Emry
George Hart
Jonas Likins
Owen Nicholas
Jacob Overdear
Samuel Robinson
James Thomas
Jacob Wilkler

RUSCOMBMANOR

Adam Ahar
George Angstat
George Angstat
Julius Bauhman
Philip Berninger
Peter Breifogel
John Rudolph Camber
Peter Colb
Mathias Colb
Jacob Diser
Jacob Ely
Titer Fohl
Jacob Fox
Bastian Gernant
Nicholas Guliard
Peter Guidleman
George Hefnor
Casper Hoofman
Ludwic Hospelhorn
Christian Hufnail
Philip Keller

Peter Kulter
Henry Long
Jacob Libbert
Philip Lining
Jacob Michael
John Miller
Godlick Nolic
Conrad Price
Anthony Peck
Casper Piking
John Reel
Peter Reif
George Rock
Casper Routhorn
George Swartz
Christian Shoemaker
Adam Shurel
John Sowers
Yost Wagner
John Wickenhammer
Michael Widower



John William
John Yon
Jacob Zanger
Single Men
Fredrick Bia
Stophel Colb

Jost Faall
Teetor Folb
George Kilver
John Kohl
Michael Miller
Henry Rincer

Jacob Ming
Michael Moser
John George Moule
Daniel Moushavner
Bernhard Mountz
Christian Moyer
John Moyer
Rudy Moyer
Jacob Moz
Valentine New
John Nokle
George Noll
Mathias Noxser
John Oberle
Andrew Oleback
George Paffenberger
Christian Pens
John Poncius
Jacob Portner
George Procias and two
married sons

Adam Smith
George Smith
Mathias Smith
Abram Snider
Benjamin Spicker
Peter Spicker
Nicholas Swingel
Adam Sholter
Bernhard Shoon
Adam Sunday
John Shop
George Stock
Jacob Stock
Henry Stoll
Fredrick Stop
Martin Stoup
John Snow
Michael Summay
Casper Stump
Melchor Tabler
Adam Team
John Theam
Melchor Ticeler
William Ticeler
Oly Tonkleberger
John Troutman
George Ulrick
Valentine Unrow
Christopher Ums
Christopher Ury
Peter Wagoner
Mathias Wagoner
Widow Walborn
George Weber
Adam Weeber
Jacob Welhelm
Christopher Weiser
David Weiser
John Weiser
France Wenrich
Henry Wilberger
Conrad Wirth
Fredrick Winter
Jacob Wolf
Jacob Wolf
George Wolf
George Wolf
Michael Wolffart
John Wollenbe
John Wombledorf
John Zerbe
Peter Zerbe
Peter Zerbe Jun'r
John Zeller
Oley Zoleberger
John Zollete

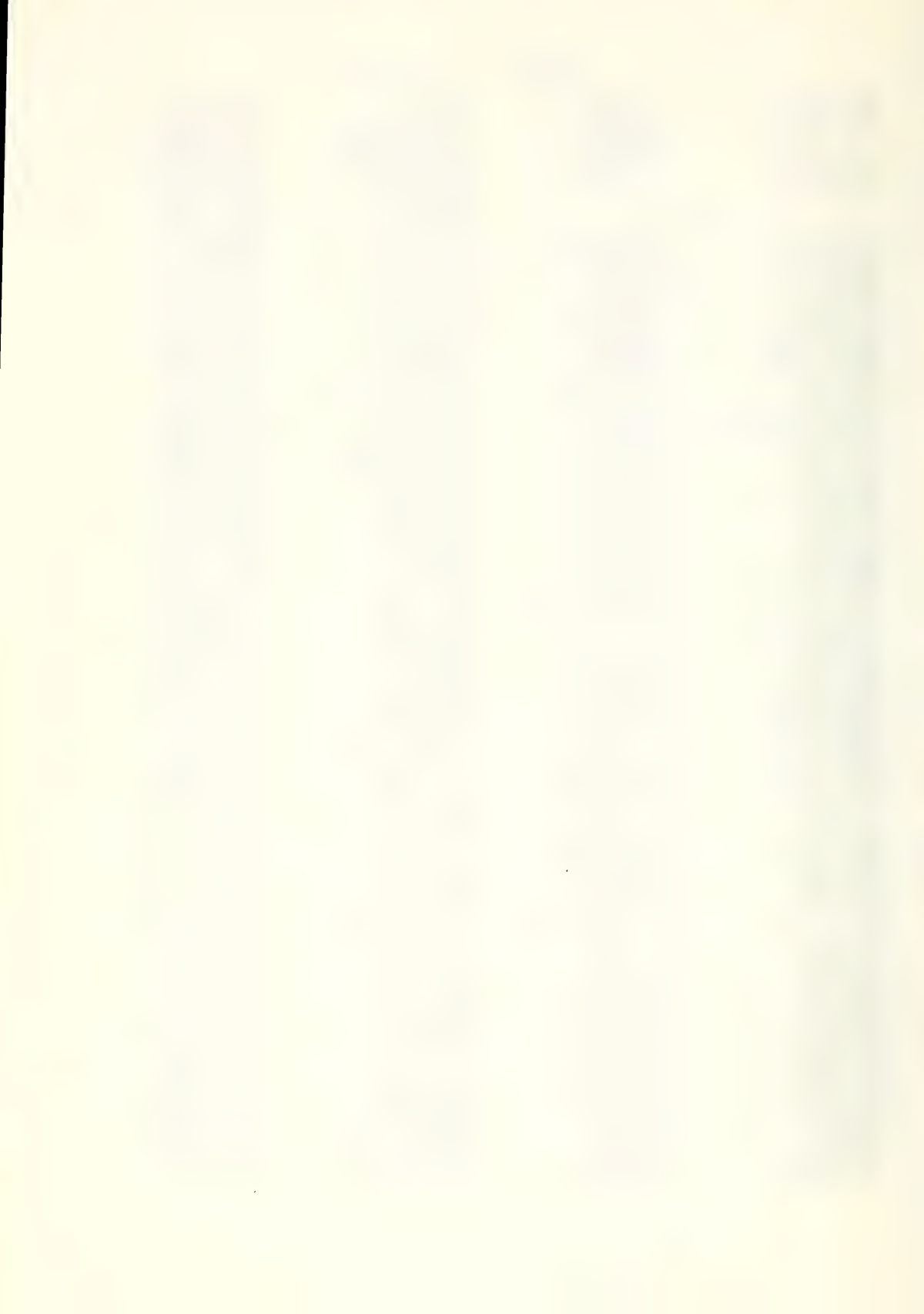
Single Men

Fredrick Anters
Jacob Arbs
Peter Carbrigh
Godfret Carkert
Henry Cuns
Valentine Grasey
Jacob Gessler
Geo. Goodman Jun'r
Adam Haverle
Little Jacob
Fredrick Miller
Jacob Precias
William Resman
John Roster
Nicholas Snieder
Lorentz Simple
John Strosneider
John Unrue

TULPEHOCKEN

John Ansbach
Leonard Ansbach
Peter Ansbach
Michael Albert
William Albert
George Bachtel
John Bachtel
Jeremiah Barr
Adam Crick-Bawn
William Crick-Bawn
Jacob Beck
George Beel
Felly Bensel
Christian Bergke (Burkey)
George Bleistein
Philip Bleistein
Jacob Breck
Jacob Bizman
Simon Boreiff
Fish Bornen
George Boyer
Henry Boyer
Jacob Brown
Philip Brown Sen'r
Philip Brown Jun'r
Jacob Bulz
Capwright
Jacob Casser
Fredrick Clasbrenner
George Christ
Stephen Conrad
Peter Crouser
Nicholas Deck
Adam Deiffenbach
Barthel Deisinger
George Dollinger
Jacob Donder
Melchor Dotweiler
Mathias Dnbeler
Andrew Eber
John Eder
Jacob Ezberger
Jacob Eichler
Adam Emrich
Bastian Eruth
Nicholas Ely
George Faurs
Nicholas Framer
Christian France
George Fenikle
Widow Fidler
Jacob Fisher
Ulrick Fisher
George Folk
Jacob Fomler
John Force
Adam Fox
George Gardner
Peter Gebhart
Philip Gebhart
George Goodman
Leonard Grow
Jacob Grub
Henry Haine
Michael Hambarger
John Hartman
Michael Hartman
Jacob Hartman
George Hauck
John Haveler
Peter Hecman
Samuel Herman
Jacob Hofman
Fredrick Hoffener
Thomas Hon
Adam James
David Kaderman
Jacob Kaderman
John Kaler
John Kaufman
Michael Keal
David Keisler
George Klein
Mathias Kemp
Daniel Kremer
Rudolph Kendel
Thomas Kern
Daniel Kenzner
William Kesran
Peter Kreyer
Michael Keyser
William Keyser
George Kinter & Son
Nicholas Kinser
Peter Kissener
Michael Kitner
Christian Krugar
Jacob Kubeller
Christian Kurtz
George Kutner
John Kofp
Jacob Konner
Michael Kope
Thomas Knorr
Fredrick Koufman
Nicholas Kougner
Christian Lawierweller
Abram Lebo
Peter Lebo
George Lechner
Jacob Lederman
George Lehman
Adam Lesh
William Lightner
Jacob Livergood & Son
George Lodwic
Casper Long
John Long
Nicholas Long
Jacob Lost
Christian Lower
Daniel Lucas
Abram Luke
Abram Luke Jun'r
Peter Luke
Jacob Lux
Francis May & Son
Daniel Mayer
Philip Meat
Jacob Miller
Jacob Miller
Nicholas Miller
Wendel Miller
Jacob Milleisin

Michael Rice
John Rigelmiller
Zacharias Rockroch
Henry Rodebach
George Rool
Joseph Rozs
Mathias Rozs
Michael Runcle
Adam Ryall
Casper Read
John Ream
George Read
Conrad Reber
Casper Reed
Casper Reed
Fredrick Reed
Jacob Reed
Leonard Reed
Leonard Reed
Peter Reed
Widow Reed
Christopher Reeser
Andrew Reger
Godfred Rehrrer
Jacob Rehrrer
Abram Reiber
Daniel Reigel
John Repman
Andrew Shafer
George Shaffer
John Shaffer
Michael Shaffer
Michael Shaffer Jun'r
Fredrick Shaffer
Peter Shaffer
Michael Sauser
John Snably
Jacob Swanger
Lodwick Swartz
John Swartz
Henry Seller
George Seller
Jacob Seiber
Philip Seiper
Philip Shearman
Widow Shell
Adam Stein Jun'r
Adam Stein Sen'r
Peter Stein
Bastian Sweyger
George Shireman



UNION

Thomas Banfield
Jacob Bashance
William Bird
Jenkin Davis
Evan Evans
John German
John Godfrey
Mordecai Harris
John Harrison
Caleb Harrison
John Haus
Andrew Hoffman
John Holloway
Mathew Hopkin
Edward Hugh
Mounce Jones
Steven Lewis
Morgan Lewis
John Lincoln
Charles Magrew
Jonathan Millard

Joseph Millard
Benjamin Millard
Timothy Millard
Thomas Pratt
Christian Standly
John Stone
Henry Sudlar
Conrad Walter
Abram Wanger
Andrew Wolf
Daniel Yoder

Single Men

Pennel Evans
Fredrick Hause
Obediah Jerman
Jeremiah Jerman
Paul Ryley
Andrew Smith
Charles Terdman
George Tishler
George Trustle

WINDSOR

1 Alsboch
Alsboch
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Dewald
az Doncleberger
eter Donkleberger
Michael Dunkle
Martin Fell
Nicholas Fey
Patrick Finley
John Garver
Jacob Grave
George Godtchall
Michael Hansel
John Hart
Fredrick Hershe
Fredrick Hess
Daniel Hill
Daniel Hill Jun'r
John Daniel Hill
Jacob Hill
John Hill
Philip Hingel
Valentine Hoof
John Hossinger
John Houser
Christian Housneit
Conrad Housman
Jacob Hower
Wendel Howers
Widow Hughes
Philip Humel
Jacob Hummel
Michael Iseman
Daniel Kamb
Michael Keisher
Leonard Keplinger
Conrad Kersner
George Kersner
Henry Kime
Adam Kline
John Koch

Christopher Kosner
Michael Kower
Widow Kuhn
Peter Kluge
Valentine Kyme
George Linderwood
Adam Lookinbill
George Miller
Hans Moyer
Jacob Petery
George Poust
Henry Proabst (Brobst)
Leonard Reeber (Reber)
Barnard Rend
George Resler
Lawrence Rodermell
Peter Rodermell
Jacob Rouse
Martin Rouse
Nicholas Roust
Michael Sler
Elias Stein
Andreas Sidle
Henry Shiera
George Shnider
Jeremiah Shoppel
Mathias Trayer
George Adam Wagner
Theobald Warner
Peter Weaver
Philip Wensil
Garet Will
Jacob Winger
Nicholas Winger
Nicholas Winger
Thomas Wright
Jonathan Worral

Single Men

Lips Adam
William Anderson
William Andlemson
Peter Cratsler
Jacob Dewald
Jacob Hill
George Hower
Andrew Humel
Leonard Ketz
George Lusker
James Malone
Jacob Meyer
John Mingel

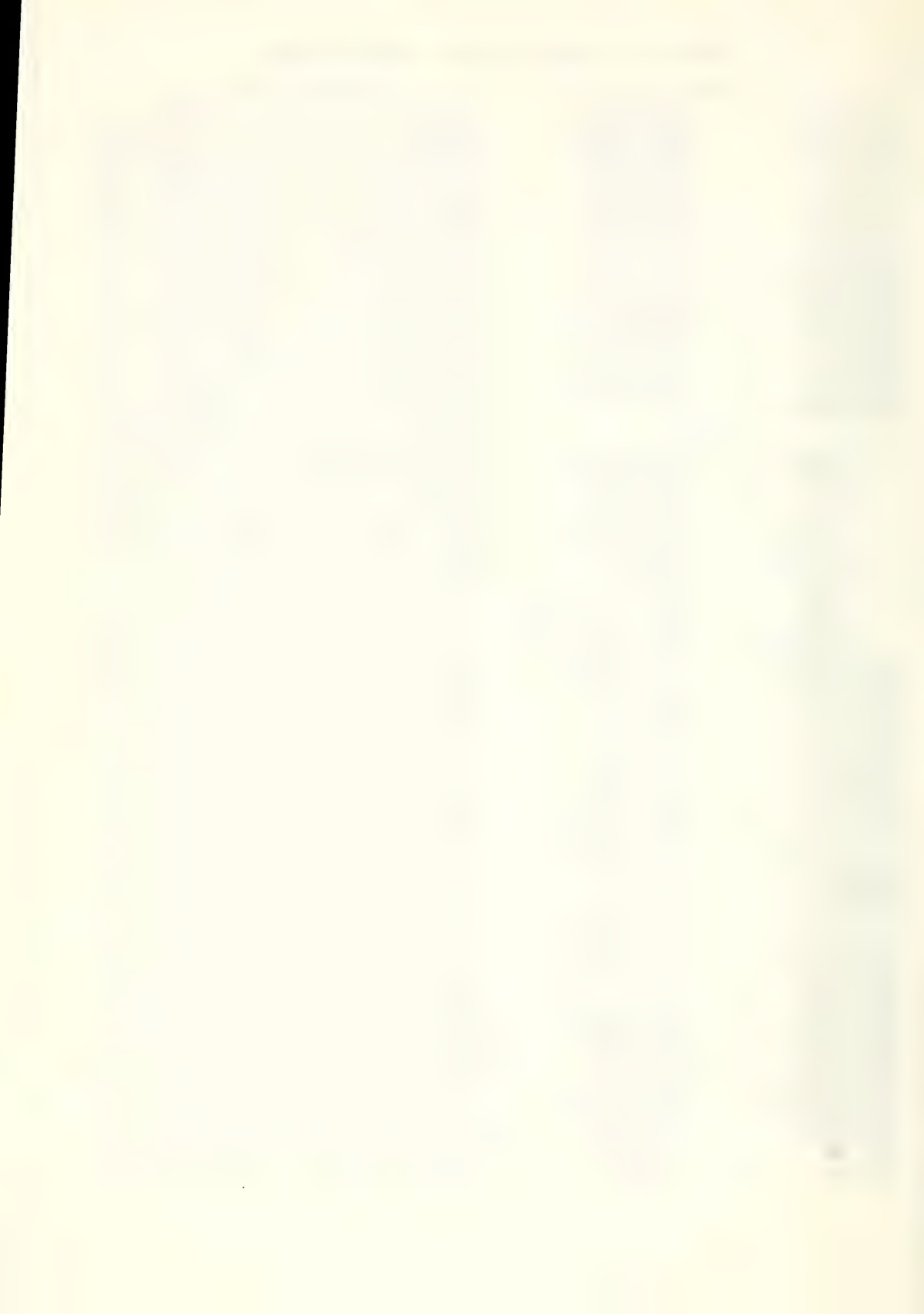
NATIONALITIES

SWEDES.—The first permanent settlement along the Delaware in Pennsylvania was effected by a small colony of Swedes in 1638. Ten years before this, the subject of encouraging Swedes to settle in Pennsylvania, for purposes of trade, had been discussed by the King of Sweden; but his warfare with the Germans about that time, and his sudden death, ended the matter, till it was reconsidered and revised by his lord chancellor under the patronage of his daughter, the young Swedish Queen Christina. The whole number of settlers then in the new country (which they called New Sweden) did not exceed fifty. The Swedes effected the most of their settlements on the western side of the Delaware river, and extended them along this river and its prominent tributary, the Schuylkill. In ten years, their number did not increase to one hundred. Notwithstanding their success in carrying on trade, they could not acquire such a firm hold upon the country as to continue their government a score of years. In 1655, their Governor surrendered to the Dutch, and this ended the rule of the Swedes in Pennsylvania. But those who had settled and taken up lands along the Delaware and Schuylkill did not abandon their settlements. Penn, upon his arrival nearly thirty years afterward, encouraged them to move toward the interior.

The English settlers multiplied rapidly after Penn had given a fixed government to the province, and toward the close of the seventeenth century the Swedes began to consider the propriety of accepting Penn's offer. A small colony, under the leadership of Andrew Rudman, found suitable land along the Schuylkill, several miles above the mouth of the Manatawny creek, and they in 1701 petitioned for ten thousand acres. Immediately afterward, in pursuance of warrants issued, certain tracts, aggregating 10,500 acres, were surveyed and laid off for them. The names of these Swedes were Andrew Rudman, Andrew Bankson, Benjamin Burden, Peter Boon, Benjamin Boon, Mounce Jones, Justa Justason, Mounce Justice, John Cock, Peter Cock, Otto Ernest Cock, Jacob Culinn, Matthias Holston, Morton Morton, Richard Roads and Jonas Yocum.

All of these, excepting Rudman, remained and made permanent settlements. A building erected by one of them, in 1716, is still standing though somewhat altered. It is the oldest building in the county. Descendants of some of them are still in the township (called Amity shortly afterward), notably the Joneses and Yocums. This was the only colony of Swedes which came into the county, and the only section of the county in which they took up lands; and they did not wander away, remaining in the township almost entirely.

They were the first settlers who erected a building for religious worship in this county. They were members of the Lutheran denomination, and they possessed admirable characteristics to take up and develop a new country. They remained more



immediately together than any other subsequent class of settlers. The Indians must have appreciated their virtues in suffering them to remain unmolested before the land was released. Hence



OLD SWEDE BUILDING

they were a peaceable people. There was amity between them, and so the township came to be named in 1720.

GERMANS.—The German immigrants were the second to enter this section of territory. The first settlement by them was effected in 1710, along the Manatawny, in Oley. Many arrived within the next decade. To the east of the Schuylkill river they proceeded northwardly from Philadelphia. To the west, however, the first colony of Germans, before 1730, entered from the west, proceeding from New York southwardly and from the Susquehanna river eastwardly into Tulpehocken Valley. The total number of Germans who settled in the county previous to 1752 cannot be estimated, but they were certainly more numerous than all the other nationalities taken together. In 1747 Governor Thomas stated that the Germans of Pennsylvania comprised three-fifths of the whole population, or about one hundred and twenty thousand.

Many of them were redemptioners, or persons who had bound themselves or one or more of their children to the masters of vessels, upon their arrival, for a term of years, to pay for their passage across the ocean. The usual terms of sale depended upon the age, strength and health of the persons sold. Boys and girls generally served from five to ten years, till they attained the age of twenty-one years. Many parents were compelled to sell the service of their own children in order to satisfy their passage-money, so that they might be released from the vessel upon which they were brought to this country. Children under five years of age could not be sold to service. They were disposed of gratuitously to persons who agreed to raise them and give them their freedom when they attained the age of twenty-one years. In this manner the redemptioners came to occupy a very humble position; but "from this class there have sprung some of the most reputable and wealthy inhabitants of the province."

2

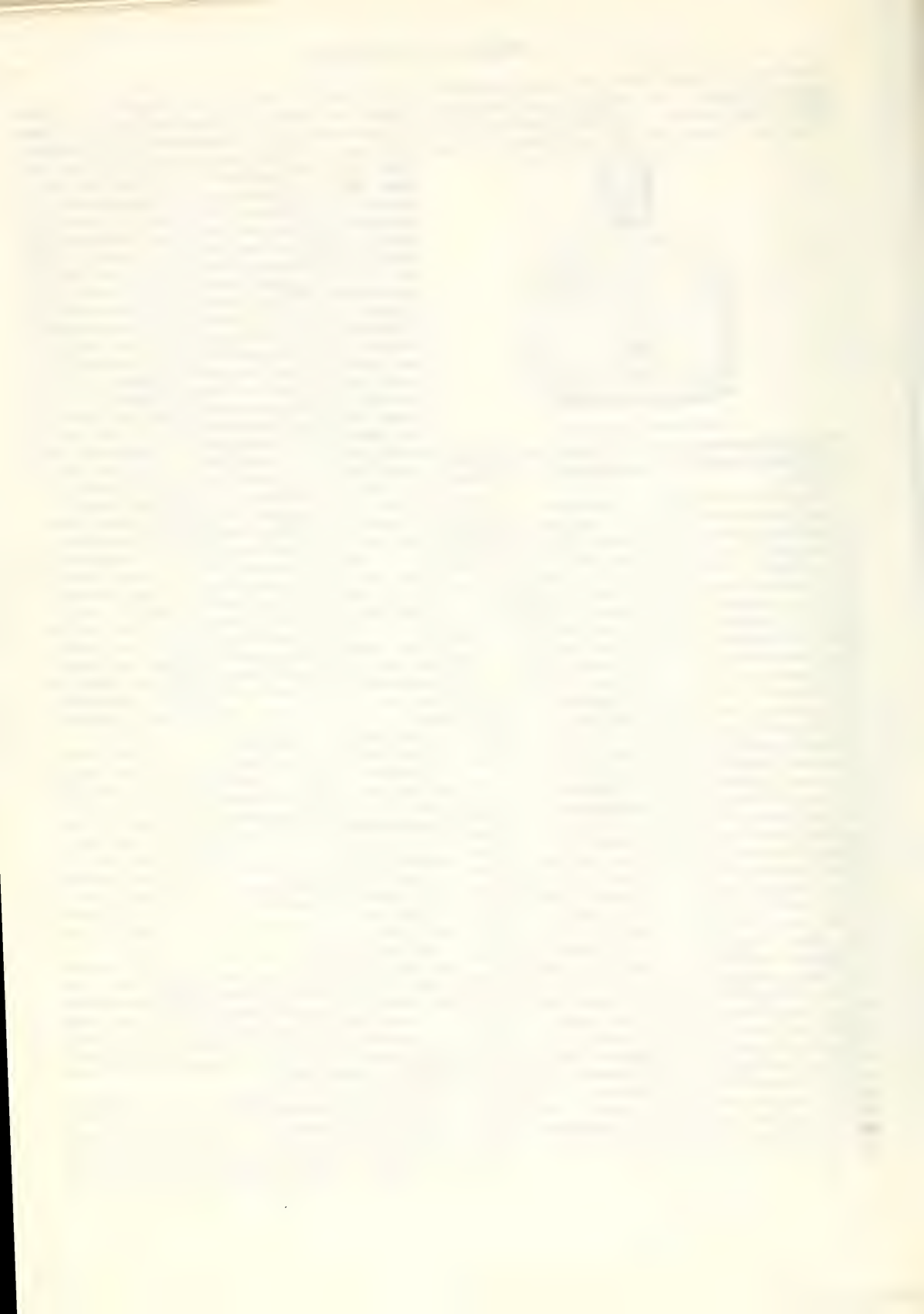
Prior to 1727, most of them brought considerable means, but afterwards, many of them were poor, and they came to be redemptioners on that account. The years in which they arrived were 1728, 1729, 1737, 1741, 1750 and 1751. The principal part of them were farmers; but many were mechanics who brought with them a knowledge of those arts which are necessary and useful in all countries, comprising carpenters and builders, weavers, tailors, tanners, shoemakers (cordwainers), comb-makers, smiths of all kinds, butchers, paper-makers and clock-makers. They became perfect mechanics and workmen through a custom of "Peregrination" (*Wanderschaft*), which, as young men, just after the close of their apprenticeship, they carried on for one or more years in order to make themselves more proficient in their several trades. This was required of young mechanics before they were permitted to set up for themselves. By this course, they were afforded opportunities of acquiring much useful knowledge which books could not supply, besides proficiency in their trade. They were called "Traveling Journeymen" (*Handwerks-Bursch*).

This was the class of Germans which settled the country along the Schuylkill and its tributaries. They were a valuable acquisition to Penn and his sons in the development of their great province. They were just what a new country needed to start it grandly in the march of material progress. Their labor, economy, perseverance and stability added great and increasing wealth to the country. In this manner they prepared the way for the erection of a new county, and having thus fitted the settlements for a separate political organization they proceeded earnestly in behalf of its establishment.

The Germans were along every stream excepting the Wyomissing, Allegheny, and Hay creek in the southern section. They were in the valleys and on the hills rather than along the Schuylkill. This selection of localities was not accidental, for they found the best quality of land away from the Schuylkill. The best farms in productiveness and appearance are in the localities where they settled—in Oley, in Maxatawny, and in Heidelberg. And in these respective localities we still find the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the first German patentees.

And the Germans were extreme Revolutionists, having encouraged the war for Independence to the utmost of their ability. Their conduct was admirable through the whole trying period, and when the great struggle was successfully ended, with the acquisition of increased power to the people, they naturally asserted their rights and took elective offices to themselves.

HUGUENOTS.—Many of the earlier immigrants were Huguenots, who had been encouraged by Penn and the English government to emigrate to Pennsylvania and New York. In France, this name was used as a term of reproach for those who aimed at a reform of religion according to the principles



enunciated by Calvin. The name attached itself to these reformers when they broke off all connection with Lutheranism and began to organize themselves both as a church and as a political body. Their churches sprang up with wonderful quickness during the middle of the sixteenth century; but they became very unpopular.

After the massacre of St. Bartholomew's day, in 1572, the subordination of their religious interests to their political interests became inevitable, and having become followers of Henry of Navarre, heir to the French crown, their subsequent discontent obtained from him, as King Henry IV., in 1598 (April 13th), the famous Edict of Nantes. But the provisions of this Edict were found as helpful for Catholics as for Protestants, and they were so modified as to show a decreasing favor of the Calvinists, who had dreamed of dominance and had hoped for equality, but were put off with tolerance. This situation caused them to become dissatisfied with the Edict; and the King then determined to reduce them to nothing.

About 1590, the Huguenots carried on worship in about thirty-five hundred chateaux and two hundred towns, which were situated chiefly in the south and west of France. When Louis XIV. took up his reign, the tranquility of the Huguenots began to pass away. In 1657, they were forbidden to hold colloquies, lest they might take to politics; and in 1659, they were told to hold no more synods. Soon the court went further and conversions were undertaken. Wherever a pastor could be bribed, converted or got rid of, his temple was torn down. Their worship then became almost impossible in towns. As the King's conscience grew morbid, he became more eager to expiate his own crimes by punishing heretics. Within twenty years seven hundred churches were destroyed. Throughout that trying period, whilst thousands of them yielded to oppression or bribery, thousands of others fled the land. The emigration began in 1666, and continued for fifty years. It is probable that, in 1660, there were over two millions of Huguenots who were regarded as the best and most thrifty citizens in that country; and of these it is said fully a million escaped from their inhospitable fatherland. At last, the King revoked the Edict of Nantes, because he thought that the Huguenots were suppressed. This was on Oct. 15, 1685, and it was the sentence of civil death on all Huguenots. It crushed more than half of the commercial and manufacturing industry of the kingdom.

FRENCH.—Among the Huguenots, there were many settlers with French names, which may be found in the lists of the first taxables to the east of the Schuylkill. The spelling has been changed so much that they can hardly be recognized, this having been done by the assessors to conform to the English or the German pronunciation. Some of these names and changes will be enumerated: Bardo or Barto was Bardeau; Bushong, Beauchamp; Bushour, Boucher or Buchat; Bertolet,

Berthollet; Bast, Baste; Deisher, Duchere; Deturck, De Turcq; Dipperry, Duprez; Dilplain, Delaplaine; Lessig, Lesecq; Lerah, Larue; Monyer, Monnier; Plank, De la Plank; Sharadin, Girardin; Shappel, Chapelle; Shomo, Chaumont. Several of the unchanged names are Boyer, Delcamp, De Long, Levan.

ENGLISH.—The English entered this territory and took up lands shortly before 1720. They were, accordingly, the third class of settlers. Their first families were the Boones, Ellises, Lees and Lincolns. They settled in Oley,—the Ellises and Lees in the eastern section, along the Manatawny, and the Boones and Lincolns in the central and western sections along the Monocacy and the Schuylkill. Within ten years after their permanent settlement, they established a meeting-house for religious worship. This was about 1726, at a point where the Exeter meeting-house stood until recently, in an elevated position near the northwestern limit of the Swedes' tracts, then called Amity township.

Shortly after 1730, they also settled along and about Hay creek and Allegheny creek, to the west of the Schuylkill, and also farther north, along and about the Maiden creek, immediately after the Indians had released their rights to the territory. The first families in the former settlements were the Embrees, Lewises, Humphreys, Scarlets, Harrys, Prices, Webbs, Hughes, Moores, Williamses and Thomases; and in the latter settlements the Parvins, Lightfoots, Huttons, Starrs, Davises, Penroses, Pearsons, Wileys, Wrights, Willits, Harveys and Reeds; and these respective families also established meeting-houses in the midst of their settlements, about the year 1736 — the one at the cross-roads near the center of Robeson township, and the other near the center of Maiden-creek.

All these families were connected with the Friends. They exerted a strong influence in these three sections of the county. The numerous English names given to the townships east of the Schuylkill were suggested by them. George Boone was particularly prominent in the lower section, and Benjamin Lightfoot in the upper section, in respect to proceedings for setting apart new townships. They were surveyors and men of more than ordinary ability. And just as these two men were prominent in their branch of service, Anthony Lee and Francis Parvin were equally, if not more, prominent in these respective sections as justices of the several courts of the county. Indeed, until the Revolution, the Friends exerted the most influence in directing political affairs here notwithstanding their number was far less than the Germans. But during the Revolution and immediately afterward, the natural energy of the Germans carried them forward in political matters, just as it had carried them forward in agriculture and manufactures before it; and Independence having elevated them into political rights, they exercised these by placing themselves into power. So the Friends lost their

official positions and consequently their public influence.

Before the Revolution, their number was strong and their religious meetings were active and successful, but since that time they have gradually decreased.

There were English people here besides the Friends. At first, between 1735 and 1740, before the erection of the county, they were in the southern and southeastern sections, the one body in Caernarvon township, and the other in Amity. They were members of the Established Church of England, here called Episcopalians. Afterward, when the county was erected, they also appeared in Reading, though without sufficient strength to cause the erection of a church for themselves until 1824.

WELSH.—Just as the Swedes settled in the county on the eastern bank of the Schuylkill, so the Welsh settled in the county to the west of this river. They migrated through Chester county till they crossed the South Mountain, and though some of them reached a point beyond the mountain before the purchase of the territory from the Indians in 1732, yet the most of them entered this district immediately afterward. The Swedes did not have a township named after any of their places, but the Welsh were earnest in this behalf, having named three townships, Caernarvon, Cumru and Brecknock.

The Welsh had purchased from Penn in England, before 1700, a large body of land, aggregating 40,000 acres, to be selected in Pennsylvania; and these acres they located to the west of the Schuylkill. They settled the country so numerously that, before 1698, they had named six townships in the county of Chester.

Rowland Ellis was a prominent Welshman who induced a large emigration from Wales to this country. After having persuaded Thomas Owen and his family to emigrate and settle in Chester county, he, himself, in 1686, embarked with 109 Welshmen. Some of the settlers were named Thomas Evans, Robert Evans, Owen Evans, Cadwallader Evans, William Jones, Robert Jones, Hugh Griffith, Edward Foulke and John Humphrey. The territory which lay to the south of the South Mountain and west of the Schuylkill was gradually settled by these Welsh people, and they migrated farther and farther up the river during the next fifty years. Before 1740, several hundred of them had settled in the district beyond this mountain. They were adherents of the Baptist denomination. Their lands were taken up mostly along and in the vicinity of the Wyomissing and Cacoosing creeks, and there they were most thickly settled, the many tracts they took up aggregating 20,000 acres, before 1752. They were enterprising, having a gristmill along the Wyomissing before 1740. This flowing stream was appreciated by them for its superior water-power, and they accordingly erected different factories along its banks for the manufacture of gun-barrels, files, etc. Agriculture was the principal employment. Like the Swedes, they remained in their first

settlement, southward of the Schuylkill and Cacoosing. They co-operated earnestly with the Germans in obtaining a new county out of the upper sections of Lancaster and Philadelphia counties.

IRISH.—Persons of Irish nativity did not settle in Pennsylvania for nearly forty years after Penn had obtained the province. Penn visited Germany in this behalf, kindling a strong interest in the province; but it would seem that he did not care for the Scotch or Irish, not having encouraged them to emigrate. Accordingly, neither of these came until after his death; and when they did arrive, they settled that portion of the province which lay mostly along the southern borders, adjoining Maryland. Though some of them followed the course of the Susquehanna and settled in Lancaster county, the great body of them migrated into the country which lay west of the river. Very few proceeded up the Schuylkill Valley.

Doubtless the German element in this direction was not agreeable to them. Hence, they directed their way to the westward from Philadelphia, immediately after landing, rather than to the northward. No settlement was effected by them in any of the districts which are now included in Berks county.

HEBREWS.—The same can be said of the Hebrews in this respect. Their immigration was so limited and so quiet that no notice was taken of them. Some of them have been in the county for many years, but almost entirely at Reading. A number of them settled along the head-waters of the Tulpehocken at or in the vicinity of Myerstown. Single individuals wandered to Womelsdorf, and even to Reading. In 1836 there were six of them at Reading—Abraham Speier, John Siegel, Mayer Siegel, Mayer Arnold, Alexander Heyman and Bernard Dreifoos.

The Hebrews here have been engaged almost exclusively in trading, and used the German language amongst themselves for many years. Through their children and local education, however, the English language has become prevalent among them.

In 1864 the following were in Reading: Bernard Dreifoos, Solomon Hirsch, Abraham Speier, Mayer Einstein, Aaron Henlein, Solomon Weil, Marcus Lyons, Isaac Mann, Isaac Hirschland, Joseph Loeb, Jacob Levy, Ralph Austrian, Abraham Arnold, Aaron Einstein and Isaac Schwerin.

NEGROES.—The negro is also worthy of mention. Slavery existed here to a very limited extent. The slaves of which any notice was found were owned almost entirely by early ironmasters, but they were few in number. This condition of servitude was incompatible with the notions of our early settlers; hence it was not encouraged. The farmers had no slaves.

Pennsylvania instituted an early movement for the gradual abolition of slavery. An Act of Assembly was passed on March 1, 1780, to this end. The Act required the owner of slaves to file a statement in the Quarter Sessions' office, giving age, surname,

etc., of each slave. A statement of this kind could not be found in the office.

Colored people were at Reading soon after it was founded. It was not, however, till after 1820 that they became sufficiently strong to form a society for religious purposes. Some of them owned real estate before 1800, and long before their enfranchisement in 1863, they were orderly, industrious and progressive.

Descendants of many of the first settlers are still flourishing in numbers, industry, wealth and social, religious and political influence in the county, and they have continued persistently engaged in agriculture upon or in the vicinity of the original settlements. Some moved to other districts of the county; others to Reading. Many sons and daughters migrated to the West and settled particularly in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, Kansas and Colorado. Some of the sons turned to the professions, and others to trades and manufactures, in which they realized rich rewards for their industry and well-directed energy. In tracing down all the pursuits of life carried on in the county, it is only occasionally that a complete stranger appears and identifies himself with her onward movement for any considerable length of time. This is especially the case in our politics. The names of the old families are continually on the surface. Not particularly demonstrative, they are like expert swimmers in deep water and float on majestically in the great stream of time, their heads always visible, their endurance prevailing.

FIRST OCCUPANTS, INDIANS

ORIGIN.—Where the Indians of this vicinity came from and when they settled in this immediate section of country no one has yet determined. It has been generally conceded that they migrated eastwardly hundreds of years ago till they reached the large body of water which we call the Atlantic Ocean. As a nation, they were known as the *Lenni Lenâpé* (original people). This general name comprehended numerous distinct tribes which spoke dialects of a common language—the *Algonquin*. According to the traditions of their ancestors, the *Lenni Lenâpé* were an unmixed and unchanged race, residing many centuries ago toward the setting of the sun, somewhere in the western part of this continent. For some reasons not explained, they determined to migrate toward the rising of the sun. After journeying for a time they arrived at the Mississippi river (*Namasi Sîpu*, meaning Fish River). There they fell in with another nation of Indians, who were also in quest of a new home to the eastward. Those were the *Mengwee*, or, as they have been named by the French, the *Iroquois*. At that river both nations united their forces, because they anticipated opposition to the east of the river from the *Alligewi*, who were a populous race of gigantic form. Shortly after their union, and before

they had advanced any distance, they realized their anticipations, for they were compelled to fight many severe battles in carrying out their determination to march onward. At last their enemy, the *Alligewi*, to escape extermination, abandoned the country, fled far southward and never returned. The victors then divided the country between themselves—the *Iroquois* choosing the country to the north along the great lakes and their tributary streams, and the *Lenâpé* taking possession of the country to the south of them, from the river eastward to the ocean.

The *Lenâpé*, on their way hither, became divided into three separate bodies. One body settled along the Atlantic ocean and the country adjacent for some hundreds of miles, comprising, it was supposed, one-half of the nation; and the other bodies settled to the east and to the west of the Mississippi river. That part of the body which was situated in Pennsylvania became known as the "*Delawares*." The word "Delaware" is unknown in the Indian language. At first the Indians thought that the white people had given this name to them in derision, but when they were informed that they were named after a great white chief—Lord de la Ware—they were satisfied.

DELAWARE TRIBES.—The Delawares divided themselves into three tribes—the *Unamis* or Turtle, the *Unalâchtgo* or Turkey, and the *Minsi* (sometimes called Monseys) or Wolf. The first two were settled on the territory which lay nearest to the ocean, between the coast and the high mountains, and, as they increased in numbers, they extended their settlements from the Hudson river to the Potomac.

The *Minsi* lived back of the other tribes, to form, as it were, a bulwark for their protection and to watch the actions of the *Mengwee*. Their settlements extended from *Minisink*, on the Hudson (a place named after them where they had their council-seat), to the west, far beyond the Susquehanna. Their northern boundaries were supposed to be along the head-waters of the great rivers, Delaware and Susquehanna, which flowed through their territory, and their southern boundaries along that ridge of hills known in Pennsylvania by the name of *Lehigh*.

Many clans sprang from these tribes. They selected distant spots as places of settlement, and gave themselves names or received names from other tribes. Their names were generally taken after simple natural objects or something striking or extraordinary. Though they formed separate and distinct clans, yet they did not deny their origin, retaining their affection for the parent tribe, of which they were proud to be called grandchildren. Many families, with their connections, lived by themselves. They were settled along the streams throughout the country. They had towns and villages, in which they lived in separate clans, with a chief in each clan ruling over them. These chiefs were subordinate to the council which comprised the great chiefs of the nation.

Minsi Clans.—The clans of the Minsi Indians were the Schuylkills, Susquehannas, Neshamines, Conestogas, Assunpinks, Rankakos, Andastakas and Shackmaxons. They were regarded as the most warlike of all the Indians in these tribes. Each clan had a chief to control its actions. The chief of the Schuylkill clan, which was settled along the Schuylkill and its tributaries, was, for a time, Manangy; and each chief was under the command of a Grand Sachem.

GANAWESE.—The Ganawese (sometimes called the Shawnees, or Piscataway) were also one of the tribes of the *Lenni Lenâpé*. They had lived formerly along the Potomac river, and were permitted by the governor of Pennsylvania to locate among the Schuylkill Indians, near Tulpehocken, in pursuance of a request from Manangy (the Indian chief in this section) with a guaranty of their friendship by the Conestoga Indians. This request was made in 1705, because the Ganawese had been reduced by sickness to a small number, and had expressed a desire to settle here. It is not known whether they came immediately or not; but four years afterward they were classed with the Indians in this vicinity. In 1728 they were represented at Philadelphia by their king, Manawkyhickon, who was called Shekellamy, also Winjack; and he was appointed then by the "Five Nations." It is supposed that he lived at Shamokin, his tribe having by this time removed thither beyond the Blue Mountain.

After Conrad Weiser had settled in Tulpehocken, in 1729, an intimacy was cultivated between him and Shekellamy. In 1732 these two were appointed to travel between the Indians and the settlers, "in order to speak the minds of each other truly and freely, and to avoid misunderstandings"; and as such agents they performed invaluable services in our early history by the satisfactory and amicable adjustment of disputes. "They were universally respected for their wisdom in council, their dignity of manner, and their conscientious administration of public affairs."

Grand Sachems.—The sachems of the *Lenni Lenâpé*, from the time of the first English settlements till the Indians retreated before the onward march of civilization and eventually disappeared entirely from this part of our country, were, in succession, Kekerappan, Opekasset, Taminent, Allumapees (who was afterward also called Sassoonan) and Teedyuscung. They had their headquarters at Minisink, on the Delaware river, some miles above the Blue Mountain (now in Pike county), and also at Shamokin, on Shamokin creek (in Berks county for a period of twenty years, and since 1772 in the eastern part of Northumberland county).

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.—The early settlers of Pennsylvania found the Indians possessed of a kindly disposition and inclined to share with them the comforts of their rude dwelling-places. When they were guests of the Indians, their persons were regarded as sacred. Penn said that they excelled

in liberality; that they never had much, for they never wanted much; that their wealth circulated like the blood; that none wished for the property of another; and that they were exact observers of the rights of property. "They are not disquieted with bills of lading and exchange," said he, "nor perplexed with chancery suits and exchequer reckonings. We sweat and toil to live; they take pleasure in hunting, fishing and fowling, which feeds them. They spread their table on the ground anywhere, and eat twice a day, morning and evening. They care for little for they want but little. If they are ignorant of our pleasures, they are free from our pains."

The Indians, in their peculiar savage life, possessed, on the one hand, certain personal virtues—a high sense of honor (according to their conceptions of duty), mutual fidelity among individuals, fortitude that mocked the most cruel torments and devotion to their own tribe, for whose welfare they were ready to make any sacrifice; but, on the other hand, they had no appreciation of domestic virtues, for they treated their wives with cruelty and their children with indifference. They were gloomy, stern and severe, and strangers to mirth and laughter. They permitted no outward expression of pain. Remarkable indifference to the good or ill of life was one of the peculiar elements of their character; and they exhibited no pleasure in anything, save boisterous joy in the moment of victory. They had a great aversion to regular labor, and yet they were capable of enduring the greatest possible exertions during the chase or times of war. They were extremely improvident. When they had an abundance of food and liquor they ate and drank great quantities, not thinking of the morrow and the famine they might have to endure. They recognized polygamy.

They believed in the existence of a Supreme Being, and of a Being in a subordinate position. The former was the Great Spirit to whom which did not require prayers for aid and protection, but the latter was looked upon as hostile to them, and to this they addressed their worship. And they also believed in a future state, where the souls of brave warriors and chaste wives enjoyed a happy existence with their ancestors and friends. Their funerals were conducted with great decorum. They dressed the deceased persons in their best clothes, and disposed of their bodies in various ways and in different places, some in the air on scaffolds, some in the water, and some in the earth. They also practised cremation.

The general dress of the Indian in the temperate and cold parts of the country, previous to the arrival of the Europeans, consisted of three articles—a cloak of buffalo skin (which hung from the shoulders), a piece of skin used as an apron, and a pair of moccasins or loose boots, manufactured out of undressed skin. The women wore a long robe of buffalo skin which was fastened around the waist.

Their habitations were huts or cabins, generally of a circular form, constructed of poles fixed in the ground and tied together at the top. The outer covering consisted of the bark of trees. A hole was left open at the top for ventilation or the escape of smoke. Beds and seats were made out of skins. The diameter of some huts was thirty feet, and even forty.

The painting of their bodies was a universal custom. Tattooing was practised. Some painted only their arms; others both arms and legs. Those who had attained the summit of renown in successful warfare had their bodies painted from the waist upward. This was the heraldry of the Indians. Besides this ornamentation, the warriors also carried plumes of feathers on their heads.

Their weapons consisted of the tomahawk, knife, club, and bow and arrow. When the Dutch arrived the rifle was introduced to them; and then the Indians became as expert in the use of this weapon as they had been in the use of the tomahawk and bow and arrow.

They subsisted chiefly on wild game and fish. They were great hunters and fishers. In the use of the spear in fishing they were very successful. They carried on agriculture to a limited extent in raising maize, beans and pumpkins. But the labor was performed entirely by their women.

Each tribe was governed by an elected chief and council. In matters of great importance all the warriors were consulted. In their deliberations, questions were decided by the consent of all, not by a majority. Their assemblies were conducted with great formality. Their debates were carried on by set speeches which abounded in bold figures and bursts of impassioned eloquence. The oldest chief always commenced the discussion. The young men were permitted to attend, but not to speak.

They conducted their warfare in a particular and peculiar manner. They declared war by sending a slave with a hatchet (the handle of which was painted red) to the offending party. In taking the field for action, they proceeded in small squads; and from the time of entering the enemy's territory they killed no game, they lighted no fires, they made no disturbance of any kind; but they advanced with the utmost caution, not even speaking to one another, only communicating by signs and motions. In making an attack, they would first lie flat a whole night, and at the break of day, upon the signal of the chief, rush upon the enemy. If they succeeded (as they generally did succeed in such a quiet but deliberate mode of warfare) their horrifying deeds baffled description.

RETREAT OF INDIANS.—The Indians having moved north of the Blue Mountain in 1732, the Friends then entered and took up large tracts of land in the Maiden-creek Valley (Ontelaunee Section). Within the previous decade, a small colony of Germans had settled in the Tulpehocken Valley, having migrated thither from New York against the complaints and protests of the Indians. Before

1750, these settlers had even occupied tracts of land beyond the mountain, reaching as far north as the sources of the Schuylkill river. And thus it appears, as the settlers pressed forward, the Indians retreated westward.

In 1749, the Delaware Indians left the great region beyond the Blue Mountain for thousands of square miles, and they departed with the firm intention of remaining away. But shortly afterward, having been deceived by misrepresentations of the French, they returned, not to retake possession, but to murder the settlers. In this malicious invasion, they were very successful, and they kept the country in an unsettled condition for eight years. Then they fled, never to return. In 1789, the general government placed them on a large reservation of land in the State of Ohio. In 1818, they were located in Missouri. Numerous removals followed during the next fifty years, when, in 1866, they accepted land in severalty in the Indian Territory.

A popular notion prevails that the Indian tribes are disappearing and their numbers growing less. But it has been ascertained that, though certain tribes have decreased in number, and others even disappeared entirely, many of the tribes have increased; and therefore the Indian population, as a whole, in North America, has not decreased very much since the advent of the Europeans. In 1880 there were in the United States 306,543 Indians (of which 240,136 were on reservations and 66,407 were civilized); in 1890, 248,253; in 1900, 237,196; and in 1908, the number was estimated at 300,412.

The general policy of our government has been, for some years past, to treat with the Indian tribes in a respectful manner, purchase their lands, place them upon certain reservations, where they are required to remain, and appropriate supplies for them in the nature of food, clothing, arms and ammunition. In this manner the government has been humanely endeavoring to civilize them. And it has accomplished considerable good results in respect to some tribes, but failed in respect to others.

INDIAN NAMES.—All the prominent streams in the county have been given Indian names; also two townships and two mountains. These names are as follows:

Angelica—

Antietam—

Allegheny—Fair water.

Ganshowechanne—Roaring or tumbling stream. This is now known as the Schuylkill. In old deeds it is called *Manaiunk*, the signification of which word was a *mother* of streams.

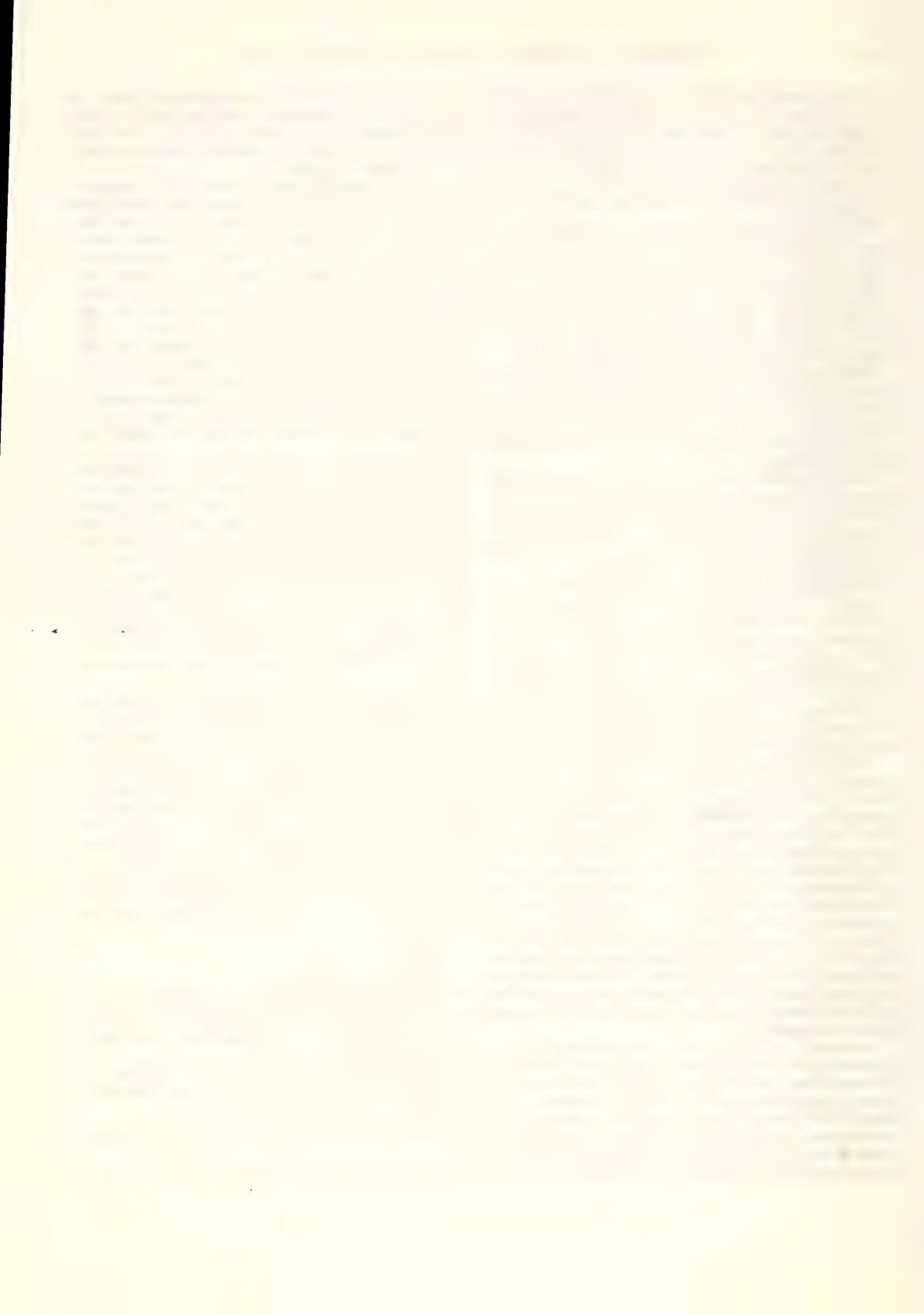
Gokhosing—Place of owls; now Cacoosing.

Kau-ta-tin-chunk—Endless (applied formerly, now changed, to Blue Mountain).

Lechawceki—Place of forks; now Lehigh.

Machksithanne—Bear's-path creek; now Maxatawny.

Maschilamchanne—Trout stream; now Moselem.



Menakesse—Stream with large bends; now Monocacy.

Menhaltanink—Where we drank liquor; now Manatawny.

Navesink—Place of fishing; now Neversink.

Olink—Hole, cavern or cell; also a cove or tract of land encompassed by hills; now Oley.

Ontelaunee—Little maiden; now Maiden creek.

Pakihnomink—Place of cranberries; now Perkiomen.

Sakunk—Place of outlet, where a smaller stream empties into a larger; now Sacony; also Saucon.

Sinne-hanne—Stony stream; now Stony creek.

Sipuas-hanne—A plum stream; now Plum creek.

Tamaque-hanne—Beaver stream—a stream across which the beaver throws a dam; now Beaver creek; also changed to Little Schuylkill.

Tulpewihaki—Land of turtles; now Tulpehocken.

Wyomissing—

VILLAGES.—Some of the Indians had villages in this district of territory. They were located in different sections, more particularly, however, along the Schuylkill and its principal tributaries, and known as follows:

1. *Angelica*—opposite "Neversink," at mouth of Angelica creek.

2. *Ganshowehanne*—in the central section, adjoining the Schuylkill, near the northern base of "Neversink," at the mouth of Rose Valley creek, the place being included in Reading.

3. *Machksithanne*—in the northern section, the place being now in Maxatawny township, near Kutztown.

4. *Maschilamehanne*—situate some miles east of Sakunk, on the stream of the same name, now known as Moselem.

5. *Sakunk*—in the northern section, on the Maiden creek in Richmond township at the mouth of the Sakunk creek, now called Sacony.

6. *Menhaltanink*—at a large spring now in Anity township, several miles northeast of Douglassville.

7. *Navesink*—a short distance below the southern base of "Neversink," near the Big Dam, on the Deturek farm; and it is believed that a village was also in the "Poplar Neck" on the High farm.

8. *Olink*—in Oley township, a short distance south of Friedensburg, on land included in the Bertolet farm. And it is believed that a large village was situated several miles to the eastward, on the Lee farm, adjoining the Manatawny creek.

9. *Tulpewehaki*—in the western section of the county, a short distance east of Stouchsburg, near the Tulpehocken creek.

INDIAN RELICS.—A large number of Indian relics have been found in different parts of the county, numbering about twenty thousand. Many of them were found at certain places where villages were situated. Over sixty-five hundred were found on and in the vicinity of Poplar Neck and Lewis's Neck. Prof. David B. Brunner secured a large individual collection, numbering over forty-three

hundred. The relics of Ezra High, found on Poplar Neck, were presented to the Historical Society of Berks County.

Henry K. Deisher, of Kutztown, has a superb collection, local as well as general, the total numbering upward of twenty thousand. [See mention of it in the Borough of Kutztown, Chapter XI; also in his biographical sketch, which appears in this publication.]

PURCHASE OF TERRITORY

Immediately after Penn had obtained his charter for the province from King Charles II. in 1681, and had begun his administration of its various affairs, he negotiated with the Indians for the purchase of their lands. He regarded them as the rightful owners of the territory by virtue of their possession. Many purchases were made by him. He gave in consideration for the land mostly articles which the Indians regarded as useful, such as blankets, coats, guns, powder, lead, etc. Comparatively little money was paid to them. Rum was occasionally given.

There are two deeds for lands in Berks county in which we are particularly interested. One is dated Sept. 7, 1732. It is from Sassoonan, *alias* Allumnapis, sachem of the Schuylkill Indians, Elalapis, Ohopamen, Pesqueetomen, Mayemoe. Partridge and Tepakoaset, *alias* Joe, on behalf of themselves and all the other Indians of the said nation, unto John Penn, Thomas Penn, and Richard Penn. The territory contained in the grant is described as follows:

All those tracts of land lying on or near the river Schuylkill, in the said province, or any of the branches, streams, fountains or springs thereof, eastward or westward, and all the lands lying in or near any swamps, marshes, fens or meadows, the waters or streams of which flow into or toward the said river Schuylkill, situate, lying and being between those hills, called Lechay Hills, and those called Keekachtanemin Hills, which cross the said river Schuylkill about thirty miles above the said Lechay Hills, and all land whatsoever lying within the said bounds; and between the branches of Delaware river, on the eastern side of the said land, and the branches or streams running into the river Susquehanna, on the western side of the said land, together with all mines, minerals, quarries, waters, rivers, creeks, woods, timber and trees, with all and every the appurtenances, etc.

The consideration mentioned in the deed consisted of the following articles:

20 brass kettles, 100 stroudwater matchcoats of two yards each, 100 duffels do., 100 blankets, 100 yards of half tick, 60 linen shirts, 20 hats, 6 made coats, 12 pair of shoes and buckles, 30 pair of stockings, 300 lbs. of gun powder, 600 lbs. of lead, 20 fine guns, 12 gun-locks, 50 tomahawks or hatchets, 50 planting hoes, 120 knives, 60 pair of scissors, 100 tobacco tongs, 24 looking-glasses, 40 tobacco boxes, 1000 flints, 5 lbs. of paint, 24 dozen of gartering, 6 dozen of ribbons, 12 dozen of rings, 200 awl blades, 100 lbs. of tobacco, 400 tobacco pipes, 20 gallons of rum and 50 pounds in money.

The other deed is dated Aug. 22, 1749. It is from nine different tribes of Indians unto Thomas Penn and Richard Penn. The several tribes were represented by their chiefs, who appeared and executed the deed in their behalf. The consideration

was £500 lawful money of Pennsylvania. The tract of land conveyed lay north of the Blue Mountain, and extended from the Delaware on the east to the Susquehanna on the west. It included the whole of Schuylkill county. Conrad Weiser was the interpreter for the Indians in this transfer.

The lower section of the county, lying southward of the South Mountain (or "Lechay Hill"), had been released by the Indians in 1718, it having been included in previous purchases of territory.

REDUCTIONS OF TERRITORY

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY.—As nearly as it was possible to do so, the provincial government kept the settlers from going beyond the limits of the purchases from the Indians. After the purchase of 1749, the settlers extended the settlements beyond the Blue Mountain. Within the next score of years, numerous settlements were made in that territory, especially in the district which lies between the Blue Mountain and "Schneid Berg" (Sharp Mountain, named so from the sharpness of its apex). Many persons located beyond the purchase, in the vicinity of the great fork in the Susquehanna (Shamokin, now Sunbury); and this induced the additional purchase of 1768.

Within the next four years, the Governor was persuaded to feel the necessity of erecting another county, even in that remote locality, notwithstanding a much larger population existed within the limits of the purchase of 1749. Its distance (averaging seventy-five miles) from the county-seat, Reading, was the principal cause of complaint, and the prime reason to the Assembly in granting the prayer of the petitioners. Northumberland was erected on March 21, 1772. It comprised about one-third of the whole State, including the north-western section. Over three-fifths of Berks county was cut to it. No townships had been formed in that section. Immediately after the erection of the new county, townships were formed, and a county-seat was established and laid out at Shamokin, named Sunbury. Fort Augusta, at the fork of the river, was a conspicuous place during the French and Indian war. It was erected in 1756.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY.—Forty years afterward, Berks county was again reduced in area by contrib-

uting territory toward the erection of another county. Many surprising developments had been made, not only in settlements and population, but more especially in internal resources. The condition of affairs in the county was equal to that of any section of the State. Coal was discovered as early as 1775, along the head-waters of the Schuylkill. Its need had come to be felt. It quickened enterprise in developing new means of transportation. Agriculture had enriched the land wonderfully. Numerous furnaces and forges were carried on successfully, not only in the more populous parts south of the Blue Mountain, but also north of it, even in the vicinity of the coal regions.

The population and improvements beyond the purchases of 1749, when Northumberland county was erected in 1772, were comparatively trifling. But within this purchase they had grown to large proportions when the second county came to be erected out of a part of its territory; for the population numbered about six thousand, and the several townships together contributed over eight hundred dollars in taxes. The new county was erected on March 11, 1811, and called Schuylkill. The greater portion of the territory was taken from Berks county, and the other portion from Northampton. The portion from Berks had been erected into seven townships, as follows:

	Erected	Taxables in 1811
Brunswick	1768	359
Pine-Grove	1771	251
Manheim	1790	269
Schuylkill	1802	136
Norwegian	1802	108
Mahantango	1802	141
Upper-Mahantango	1807	103
		<hr/> 1,372

OTHER COUNTIES PROPOSED.—Between the years 1824 and 1855, twenty applications were made before the Legislature to establish new counties out of portions of Berks county, comprising townships in the northern, eastern, southern and western sections, but fortunately they all were unsuccessful, notwithstanding the great efforts expended in that behalf.



CHAPTER II—INDUSTRY OF COUNTY

AGRICULTURE

GENERAL CONDITION AND PROGRESS.—When the first settlers entered this territory, they found it entirely without cultivation or improvement of any kind. The land along the Schuylkill and its tributaries was in a primitive state in every respect, but in a good condition for farming purposes. Its location was fine, its irrigation superior, and altogether it was very inviting to them. Labor stood out prominently before them as the one thing necessary to cause it to become fruitful. Fortunately for them, they possessed this personal quality in the highest degree; and with this quality they also possessed other qualities equally important in taking hold of an uncultivated country—economy, perseverance and patience. They were in every way adapted to their situation. Their preparation was of the best order; and driven from their native land by religious persecution, they must have rejoiced in finding such a pleasing situation, such inviting conditions.

After the beginning had been made, can we wonder that immigrants came by the thousand? They knew their sufferings, their uncertain condition at home, and their sense of well-being induced them to leave. But in leaving the valleys and hills so dear to them, they came to possess and enjoy a country equally favored for beauty, for health and for profit; and it was more highly favored in respect to a condition which was to them more important than all the others combined—freedom. It is surprising to find, in the course of time and government, the development of a condition for mankind so unfortunate, so objectionable, so discouraging; but it is equally surprising to find, in the same course of time and government, though in a country far removed, over three thousand miles across a dreaded sea, a condition exactly opposite—fortunate, acceptable and encouraging!

The condition of the settlers was encouraging, not only in respect to an acceptable country, but also in respect to their own constitution, physically, mentally and morally. They were strong and enduring in physical development, they were sensible and practical in thought and feeling; and they were sound, hopeful and trustful in religious convictions. These fitted them admirably for their vocation.

The land was cultivated then as it is now, by manuring and enriching the soil, by turning the sod, by sowing and planting seeds, and by rotating crops; but the manner was infinitely more laborious. Every act was performed by muscular exertion and endurance, with the assistance of horse-power. The plow, the harrow, the scythe, the sickle and the rake were important aids then, and by comparing the past with the present we can readily appreciate the vast difference. Their

farming implements were rude and simple in construction and continued so for many years. The whole of the eighteenth century passed away without any improvement. The farmer labored on earnestly and faithfully year after year, and decade after decade with the same muscular exertion, and these rude implements required him to be at his place all the time if he wished to be in season. But his devotion was equal to the task, for he was up with the sun in the morning; and with the moon in season. He was never behind, for he could not be without great loss and inconvenience. His implements were satisfactory to him, because he gave them no thought beyond the assistance which they afforded. And sons followed in the footsteps of their fathers, by imitation; and half of the nineteenth century also passed away without any material advancement beyond the days of 1700, of 1750, and of 1800. Labor-saving machinery had begun to be introduced within a score of years before 1850; and this naturally led to an improvement in farming implements. The mower came to be substituted for the scythe, the reaper for the sickle, and the drill for the hand. Improved plows of various patterns were introduced. And now we have the combined reaper and binder, a machine truly ingenious.

The same slowness, simplicity but earnest labor followed the threshing of grain after it had been harvested. The flail and the walking of horses on the barn floor were continued for a hundred and fifty years. Indeed, some of the poor, non-progressive farmers in districts distant from railroads and prominent highways still carry on this laborious performance. But about 1840 the threshing machine was introduced; and also the horse-power machine for running it with speed and success. Patent hay-rakes, hay-forks, corn-shellers, and implements and machines of various kinds, are also used in every section of our county. All these things were developed because of the ease with which iron could be manufactured into any shape. Accordingly, the foundry played an important part in these improvements; and at the bottom of all this progress we find iron, coal and steam.

We no longer see from ten to thirty or forty persons engaged in haymaking and harvesting on our farms, as they were seen one hundred, indeed, only thirty, years ago. A farmer and his own family, with the aid of his horses and improved farming machinery, can carry on all the work from beginning to end successfully.

During the last fifty years numerous manufacturing establishments have been erected in our country, and these have caused a great demand for working people; and this demand has been supplied to a great degree from the farming dis-

tricts. The manufacturer paid higher wages than the farmer and limited the time of daily labor to ten hours; and towns and cities (at which these establishments were almost entirely situated) afforded the working-people more and better advantages and facilities in respect to schools and churches, pleasures and associations. These naturally inclined them to quit laboring on farms and enter establishments in populous places. Accordingly farm laborers began to grow scarce and farmers became alarmed; but fortunately for farming, whilst enterprise was drawing one way against its interest and welfare, genius was acting with equal force in the other for them, and the result has actually come to be beneficial to the farmer, more especially in respect to making him more self-dependent.

By the industrial statistics in the next portion of this chapter, it will appear that in 1806 there were upward of one hundred and fifty grist-mills, which were scattered throughout the county. After the several railroads in operation began to make themselves felt in the industrial affairs of the county, these grist-mills came to be abandoned, and as they grew less in number the value of farms began to decrease, and this decrease continued until the value in many cases was one-half, even two-thirds, less than it had been. This was noticeable from 1875 to 1900. The abandoned mills have not been rebuilt; and the farm values have not yet improved. This was a direct result of imported grain from the Western States at reduced rates, much having been said of the increased flour-producing character of this grain over the Eastern grain; and also of Western flour. And this abandonment of the grist-mills and decrease of farm values led many thousand of people to move from farms and locate in towns and cities, in the county and out of it. The census and assessment returns show this plainly. Before 1835, without the aid of steam and railroads and stimulated industrial affairs, farming communities had increased and improved for fifty years; but after 1875, even with these extraordinary aids to the people, they have decreased and retrograded, and the major part of the population and wealth have come to concentrate in the county-seat.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—In 1823, a State Agricultural Society was first suggested to the people of the State by an Act of Assembly, but nearly thirty years elapsed before a successful movement was made in that behalf. A public letter was addressed to the farmers of the State, in May, 1850, which suggested a convention at Harrisburg, in January, 1851, for the purpose of forming a State Agricultural Society. Delegates from the several counties were in attendance and it resulted in a State Fair which was held in October, 1851.

This movement having met with success, a preliminary meeting for organizing a society in the county was held at the "Keystone House" (now "Hotel Penn"), in Reading, on Dec. 20, 1851. It was attended by a number of prominent citizens

of the county, who caused a public address to be issued; and a formal organization was effected at the court-house on Jan. 13, 1852, 108 persons subscribing the constitution.

The first exhibition was held on Aug. 17, 1852, at Reading. It was confined principally to grains, vegetables, fruits and flowers; and though small, it exceeded all expectations, having attracted a large number of visitors from Reading and all parts of the county.

The first agricultural fair was held in October, 1853; the exhibition of speed took place on a large lot on the northeast corner of Sixth and Walnut streets; of farming implements, stock, poultry, etc., on a lot on the southeast corner of Fifth and Elm streets; and of grain, fruits, flowers, fancy articles, etc., in the Academy building, on the northeast corner of Fourth and Court streets. It was a great success—the attendance having been estimated at 20,000.

In a report to the society on April 5, 1853, a recommendation was made that the public park and parade-ground be secured as a suitable locality for the erection of buildings, etc., to promote agricultural science. This recommendation was acted upon, and on May 13, 1854, the county commissioners leased to the society the ground known as the "commons," for the purpose of holding its annual fairs, for the term of ninety-nine years. The third annual fair was held there in October, 1854; and every succeeding year the fairs were conducted on the "Fair Ground" until 1887 excepting during the Civil war for three years (1862-3-4), when it was occupied by the United States government for the purposes of a military hospital and camp. In that year it was removed to the large inclosure at the end of North Eleventh street, and the annual exhibitions have since been held there.

The annual "Fair" is the principal object of the society. Monthly meetings are held for the discussion of topics pertaining to agricultural and horticultural progress. These have been held in the third story of the court-house for many years past. Formerly, they were held at different places, prominent among them being the "Keystone House" and "Keystone Hall."

A similar society was formed at Kutztown in 1870, which also gave annual exhibitions until 1903. Another "Fair Ground" was established in 1905, on the north side of Kutztown, with a superior half-mile track.

FARMERS' UNION.—In 1900, a number of farmers of the southern section of the county in the vicinity of Geigertown organized a "Farmers' Union" for educational and mutual benefit and erected a fine hall (32x45) costing \$1,500, with cement basement and shedding. It has been carried on in a successful manner and its lectures on agricultural topics have been highly appreciated. Membership, 100. Officers: E. M. Zerr, president; H. G. McGowan, treasurer; H. C. Hohl, secretary; D. Owen Brooke, corresponding secretary.

IRON INDUSTRIES

FURNACES AND FORGES.—In each portion of the county there were iron industries at an early period in its history, especially in the lower portion. They were scattered many miles from one another, extending from the southern boundary to the northern, and from the eastern to the western. All were located along strong streams for water-power, and in the midst of thickly wooded territory for charcoal. The greater number were east of the Schuylkill. The nine following streams were occupied before the Revolution: Manatawny and its tributary Ironstone, West-Branch of Perkiomen, Moselem, French, Hay, Allegheny, Tulphocken and its tributary, Spring.

Until that time there were the following industries—the year indicating the time of erection:

FURNACES

Colebrookdale	1720	Hopewell	1759
Mt. Pleasant	1738	Berkshire	1760
Hereford	1740	Oley	1765

FORGES

Pool (2)	1717	Oley	1744
Spring	1729	Charming	1749
Mt. Pleasant	1738	Moselem	1750
Pine	1740	Gibraltar	1770
Hay Creek	1740		

From 1775 to 1800, the following were established in the county:

FURNACES

Union	1780	Joanna	1792
District	1780	Reading	1794
Mary Ann	1789	Greenwood	1796
Dale	1791	Sally Ann	1800

FORGES

Brobst's	1780	Burkhart's	1792
Rockland	1783	District	1793
Dale	1791	Speedwell	1800

All of these industries were operated successfully for many years and contributed a great deal to the material welfare of the county; but most of them were discontinued shortly after the Civil war. Three of them are still in active operation, though much enlarged:

Hay Creek (Birdsboro)	Gibraltar
Reading (Robesonia)	

Among the more recent furnaces and forges in the county, there were the following, the date after the name indicating the year of erection:

FURNACES

Sally Ann	1811	Maiden Creek	1854
Windsor		Reading (Seyfert, McManus & Co.)	1854
Hamburg		second stack	1873
Moselem	1823	Temple	1867
Mount Penn	1825	Keystone	1869
Earl	1835	second stack	1872
Mount Laurel	1836	Topton	1873
Henry Clay	1844	East Penn (2 stacks)	1874
second stack	1854	Kutztown	1875
Monocacy	1852	Bechtelsville	1875
Leesport	1853		

FORGES

Do-Well	1825	Exeter	1836
Moyer's	1825	Mount Airy	1840
Moselem	1825	Seidel's	1853
Sixpenny	1825	Keystone	1854
North-Kill	1830	Reading	1857
Bloom	1830	Douglassville	1878

INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS.—In the year 1806, Berks county was distinguished for its numerous manufacturing establishments, its trade and enterprise. The following iron industries were then in operation:

Tilt hammers	9	Furnaces	8
Slitting-mill	1	Forges	20

Other industries:

Powder-mills	4	Grist-mills	155
Fulling-mills	14	Tanneries	49
Hemp-mills	2	Oil-mills	20
Paper-mills	10	Hat factories (Reading)	40
Saw-mills	235		
Distilleries	212		

In 1830, there were: furnaces, 11; and forges, 24; which employed 2,770 men.

In 1840, there were: furnaces, 11; forges, 36; flour and grist-mills, 141; oil-mills, 15; sawmills, 108; powder-mills, 3; stores, 119; paper-factories, 5; potteries, 3; distilleries, 29; breweries, 6.

In 1851, there were 41 iron works—more than in any other county in Pennsylvania; and no other county in the United States contained more. The estimated and reported capital then invested was \$1,231,000.

In 1876, there were 27 furnaces, 4 forges, and 10 mills, whose total production was 58,641 tons; and in 1884, there were 19 furnaces, 6 forges, and 9 mills, whose total production was 135,947 tons.

INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS, 1870-1900

	Establishments	Employees	Capital	Wages	Materials	Products
1870	1,414	8,991	\$11,182,603	\$2,711,231	\$10,646,049	\$16,243,474
1880	1,014	10,008	12,522,140	3,077,913	13,026,231	20,143,164
1890	975	17,433	20,517,504	7,078,146	17,664,329	29,446,002
1900	1,639	25,379	37,279,817	9,676,954	25,502,407	49,977,253

IRON-MASTERS.—The iron-masters of the county include many men noted for their enterprise, success, wealth and patriotism, all through the history of the county, from its earliest settlements till now. A great proportion of the material prosperity and enrichment of the county has been contributed by them. They have, to a great degree, influenced its social, political, and industrial welfare. In the settlement and development of its several sections, they have been pioneers. Though their great and influential industry does not antedate agriculture in the affairs of the county, it has, nevertheless, been

a traveling companion; and, like agriculture, it has been transmitted from grandfather to son and grandson. Their names reveal the fact that the great majority of them have been Germans or of German origin.

GENERAL INDUSTRIES.—The industries previously mentioned were prominent in their several sections on account of the capital invested and the men employed to carry them on successfully. But besides these there were many other industries in the several townships. Blacksmith shops and wheelwright shops were located and conducted in every community. They were necessary for the accommodation of the settlers. Only a few individuals worked together—mostly a master workman and his apprentice. Grist-mills for flour and feed were situated along all the large streams. Cooper shops were also quite numerous. The Welsh were mechanics who conducted their trades in small factories along the Wyomissing. Rope-makers were common in every section, for ropes and cords were largely used in the daily affairs of life. This industry was conducted for many years by individuals at their homes; but improved machinery and steam caused its decline, and small ropewalks were compelled to discontinue.

Carpenters and builders were numerous. They were finished workmen, preparing the articles out of wood by hand. Some of the old buildings, still in a good state of preservation, attest the excellence of their workmanship. Doors, windows and frames of all kinds, used in building operations, were hand-made. This custom amongst them continued till the introduction of the planing-mill about 1835, and then it began to decline. The country sawmill, run by water-power, was active then in preparing lumber; but great steam mills in the lumber regions have caused them to become less and less active. Great rafts of logs are no longer towed down the canals to Reading, especially the Union canal from the Susquehanna river, to afford employment to our sawmills. The railroads instead deliver finished lumber.

Every community had a weaver, who conducted his business at his home. He wove carpets and coverlets (plain and fancy) and linen and cotton stuffs for domestic use. He did not carry a large stock on hand; he manufactured articles to order. So with other trades. Fulling-mills, paper-mills, oil-mills, and distilling-mills were conducted for cloths, paper, oil and whiskey, but they were limited in capacity.

MEMORIAL FOR NATIONAL FOUNDRY.—In 1845, a memorial was presented to Congress, setting forth reasons why Reading should be selected as a site for one of the national foundries. It referred to the security of Reading in time of war, its central position with regard to points of defense and supply of ordnance, its transportation facilities, its supply of iron, coal and other materials, and its low wages; and it included an itemized statement of 15

furnaces and 28 forges, with their respective distances from Reading.

Seven years before, upon the opening of the railroad from Reading to Philadelphia, there had been a similar movement.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS

The internal improvements of the county relate to the several prominent affairs which have been established and carried on for the general convenience, development and enrichment of the whole community. They comprise the following subjects: Schuylkill River, Bridges, Roads and Turnpikes, Stages, Canals, Railways, Post-Offices, Telegraph, and Telephone.

SCHUYLKILL RIVER

In a natural aspect, the Schuylkill river has occupied an important position in the well-being of the county. We can only appreciate this by realizing the great advantages which it has afforded us in leading away successfully to the Delaware river the enormous quantities of water throughout the year, from the mountains and valleys. And its meandering channel is worthy of consideration, inasmuch as the flowing waters are thereby detained in their onward course, to moisten the air and vegetation, and to proceed with only such speed as not to injure the adjoining country.

FISHING AND NAVIGATION.—In a practical aspect, it has been valuable in various ways—two especially, fishing and navigation. In respect to fishing, it was a source of profit and subsistence to the early settlers who occupied the adjoining properties. They discovered this fact immediately after settling here; and, to facilitate the catching of large quantities of fish with little labor and expense, they erected weirs, racks and dams in the river, into which the fish were driven by fishermen, who either waded afoot or rode on horseback through the water. And in respect to navigation, it was likewise a source of advantage in enabling them to carry conveniently by boats, flats and canoes, at little expense, great quantities of grain and goods of all kinds, to the market at Philadelphia. Canoes were of considerable size so as to carry a large quantity of wheat. They were hewn out of the trunk of a tree. The growth of the trees in the wild, extended forest of that early day was very large. William Penn stated in a letter, written in 1683, that he had seen a canoe made from a poplar tree which carried four tons of brick. Penn had hardly landed here before he found that navigation in the river was obstructed by fishing weirs and dams; and believing them to be objectionable, he encouraged legislation against them. Various Acts were passed, but the weirs and dams were not abandoned.

There was no trouble along the Schuylkill above the mouth of the Manatawny creek in reference to weirs and dams, though fishing was carried on to a great extent, especially by citizens of Reading. There were two fishing-pools which were particularly famous for their supplies of fish, "Levan's"

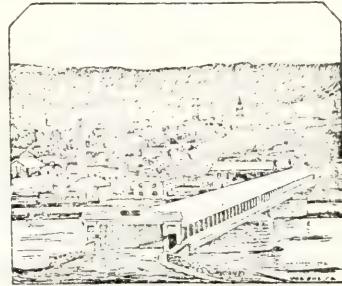
and "Lotz's," the former at the foot of "Never-sink Hill," and the latter a short distance above. Fishing was continued successfully for seventy years in these pools, until the construction of the dams in the Schuylkill canal, which forced their abandonment. Fishing with nets was common. It was a regular pursuit with some people.

NAVIGATION ENCOURAGED.—The Schuylkill river forms the western boundary of Reading. In its natural state, before it was contracted on both sides by the construction of the Schuylkill canal along its eastern bank, and of the Union canal along its western, it was over six hundred feet wide. Its bed was capable of confining a large body of water. It was useful in the transportation of merchandise by boats to Philadelphia. Spring was generally selected as the time when the shipment of goods could be most conveniently and satisfactorily made, for then the water was higher than during the other seasons of the year. Heavy cargoes on flat-boats would float down the river with ease, requiring only proper and careful steering. The steersmen were expert in keeping the boats in the channel, and very seldom failed to reach their destination successfully. Besides the long paddle at the stern of the boat, for guiding purposes, there were polemen at the bow with long, stout poles, who directed the boat to the right or left as necessity required. Poling was not generally required to propel the boat with the current; this labor was practised in returning against the current. There were no tow-paths then.

The improvement of the river to facilitate navigation was a subject of consideration by the early inhabitants, both of the county and county-seat, for many years. The matter was of such importance as to gain the attention of the Provincial Assembly in 1760 and secure appropriations for that purpose. The river, notwithstanding these early efforts, remained about the same as to navigation for many years. The only substantial improvement worthy of mention was effected sixty years afterward, by the construction of the Schuylkill canal; and during that time the inhabitants continued to transport their grain, merchandise and productions on boats and flats, as they had done before.

The navigation of the river induced the organization of the first Board of Trade at Reading. A number of prominent business men of the borough

assembled on March 13, 1807, to consider this subject, and then they formed a society under the name of "The Society for Promoting the Clearing of the River Schuylkill"; but nothing was accomplished. Eighteen years afterward, the difficulty was solved by the construction of a narrow channel for slack water, with numerous locks whereby to overcome grade and detain the water in certain levels to facilitate navigation.



OLD PENN STREET BRIDGE

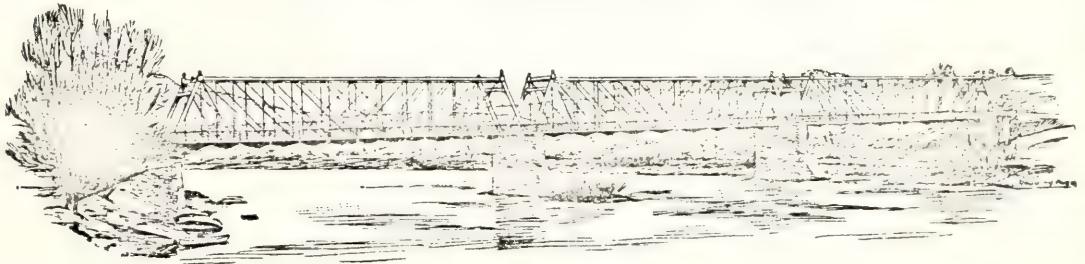
FRESHETS.—Numerous freshets have swept down the river and its tributaries which inflicted great losses upon the adjoining property-holders. Those worthy of special mention are the following:

	Rise
1757.....	15 feet
1786.....	20 feet, 7½ inches
1822.....	13 feet, 9½ inches
1839.....	17 feet, 1½ inches
1841.....	19 feet
1850.....	25 feet
1862.....	17 feet
1869.....	23 feet
1902*.....	25 feet

*Shortly before this great freshet, there was a very cold spell of weather, after a fall of rain and snow, which caused large quantities of ice to form on all the trees, and the weight of the ice broke off the tops and branches of thousands of trees throughout Berks county and the surrounding counties, the evidence being still visible in 1909.

BRIDGES

Long before the first settlements in this vicinity, there had been a ford across the river at Reading, and this was the only convenient ford for some distance above and below. It was used for seventy years after the town had been laid out. The only step in advance of the first settlers was the introduction of a ferry-boat.



LANCASTER BRIDGE

The first part of the report discusses the general situation of the company and the results of the previous year. It also mentions the main objectives for the current year.



The second part of the report provides a detailed analysis of the company's financial performance. It includes a breakdown of the income statement and the balance sheet. The analysis shows that the company has achieved its financial goals for the year, with a significant increase in revenue and a decrease in expenses.



PENN STREET BRIDGE.—In 1795, a petition was presented to the court to order the grand jury to consider the advisability of causing the erection of a stone bridge over the river at the foot of Penn street. The grand jury recommended an appropriation of \$32,000, but this sum was deemed insufficient. In 1796, the petitioners then devised the plan of raising sufficient money by a "lottery," but it proved unsuccessful. In 1801, another application was made to the Quarter Sessions for a view, and an appropriation, the petitioners concluding with a prayer for a "wooden bridge," and estimating the probable expense at £6,000. The grand jury recommended an appropriation of \$16,000, to be assessed at three yearly payments. The court approved of their action on Aug. 6th, and the county commissioners proceeded to cause its erection. The contract was awarded, and the contractor began operations in earnest, but he failed at the piers. The county commissioners had expended \$30,000, and it was estimated that \$70,000 more would be required to complete the bridge, if built of stone.

In 1805, a third unsuccessful effort was made, but for six years afterward this necessary improvement lay in idleness; then (Feb. 22, 1812) an Act was passed, authorizing the county commissioners to build a stone bridge and charge toll; and providing that, when the principal invested in its construction was realized from the tolls, it should be declared free. Still the matter halted, and another Act became necessary, which was passed on Feb. 21, 1814, modifying the previous Act by giving the commissioners the power to build either a stone or wooden bridge. Then operations were resumed and the bridge was so far completed in December, 1815, as to be passable, and it was finished at last in 1818.

It was 600 feet long, three spans of 200 feet each, covered by a roof. The first passage over it was made by Coleman's stage-coach on Dec. 20, 1815. Many persons were present to witness the occurrence and they demonstrated their joy by loud applause. Such was the exertion, and so long was the period, to obtain the "Penn street bridge," the first public improvement of the town beyond the court-house and the prison!

The subject of a "Free Bridge" was agitated as early as 1821, just three years after the bridge had been completed, but this related more particularly to persons, and, to accomplish this purpose, a petition was presented to the Legislature in February, 1821. It continued to be agitated for over thirty years and the county bridges (Harrisburg, Lancaster and Poplar Neck) were not declared free till 1883. This great step forward was obtained through the city councils of Reading, an earnest and successful application in this behalf having been made to court, upon the representation that the tolls received exceeded the cost of erecting and maintaining them, and the judges decided that the bridges must be declared free under the legislation which authorized their erection. The adjudication was made on March 28, 1883.

In 1884, this bridge was demolished by the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad Co., and this company erected in its stead a superior iron bridge at an expense exceeding \$100,000, the county commissioners appropriating \$33,000 toward the cost. The new bridge became a necessity, owing to the railroad improvements along the river.

HAMBURG BRIDGE.—During the progress of the "Penn street bridge" at Reading, the subject of a bridge was discussed at Hamburg, and the spirit created thereby was sufficient to result in the passage of an Act of Assembly on March 19, 1816, for its erection, but no practical results flowed from this first effort. Eleven years afterward (April 14, 1827), an Act was passed appropriating \$6,000 by the State for the erection of a bridge over the Schuylkill, near Hamburg, on the State road from Jonestown (Lebanon county) to Northampton county. The bridge was erected during the following year by the commissioners of the county, and confirmed by the court on Jan. 12, 1829. Toll was charged till December, 1883, when it was made a free bridge.

LANCASTER BRIDGE.—The county commissioners were authorized by an Act passed April 23, 1829, to erect a bridge over the river at Gerber's ferry, on the road from Reading to Lancaster. It was finished in 1831. Its length was 352 feet, in two equal spans. It has been known since as the "Lancaster bridge."

In 1839, a part of the bridge was swept away by the freshet; in 1850 two spans were swept away; and in 1869, the eastern half. In 1876 (July 9th) the bridge was destroyed by fire—the act of young incendiaries. Shortly before, there were loud complaints about its insecurity and darkness and its unpleasant condition on account of dust. The county commissioners caused a fine iron bridge to be erected in its stead, which was opened to travel on Jan. 2, 1877. It was the first large iron bridge-structure erected in the county. It was declared free of toll in 1883.

POPLAR NECK BRIDGE.—After the completion of the "Lancaster Bridge," the Legislature, in 1832, authorized the erection of a county toll-bridge across the river at "Poplar Neck," about three miles below Reading. And a covered wooden bridge was accordingly built during 1832 and 1833. It was declared free in 1883. At this place a ferry had been conducted for many years, known as "Lewis's Ferry."

OTHER COUNTY BRIDGES.—Since the agitation and establishment of free bridges, the county authorities have caused the erection of other necessary bridges across the river as follows:—Stoudt's No. 2, —; Cross Keys, 1891; Schuylkill avenue, 1892; Exeter, 1893; Bern Station, 1896.

There are now altogether eighteen county bridges crossing the river; fourteen, the Tulpehocken

creek; nine, the Manatawny creek; twelve, the Ontelaunee creek; and sixty-four, the other streams in the different sections of the county; making a total of 117.

The building of concrete bridges has latterly been encouraged by the county commissioners; for, from 1905 to 1909, they caused the erection of thirteen bridges, twelve of which were re-enforced concrete, costing together upward of \$40,000. The Dauberville bridge, crossing the Schuylkill, built in 1908, is a particularly fine sample; four arches, each 75 feet, costing upward of \$20,000.

PRIVATE BRIDGES.—The following private bridges were erected across the Schuylkill by individuals or stock companies, and toll was exacted until they were purchased by the county and made free:

Windsor Haven (Shoemakersville).....	1862
Mohr's (Mohrsville).....	1837
Althouse's (Leesport).....	1835
Stoudt's Ferry (Tuckerton).....	1837
Leize's	1833
Kissinger's (now Schuylkill Avenue).....	1810
Bell's (at Tulpehocken).....	1833
Birdsboro	1845
Monocacy	1871
Douglassville	1832

LARGEST COUNTY BRIDGES

SCHUYLKILL RIVER, 18

	Style	Length	Built	Free
Douglassville	Wooden	340	1832	1885
Monocacy	Iron	302	1870	1887
Birdsboro	Wooden	462	1845	1886
Exeter	Iron	440	1893	1893
Poplar Neck	Wooden	504	1832	1883
Lancaster Avenue	Iron	555	1876 (1831)	1883
Penn Street	Iron	924	1884 (1815)	1883
Schuylkill Avenue	Iron	674	1892 (1810)	1892
Leize's	Wooden	236	1833	1890
Stoudt's No. 1	Wooden	240	1857	
Stoudt's No. 2	Wooden	45		
Cross Keys	Iron	354	1891	1891
Leesport	Wooden	170	1835	1886
Mohrsville	Wooden	268	1837	1886
Shoemakersville	Wooden	194	1862	1886
Bern Station	Iron	208	1896	1896
Hamburg	Wooden	202	1828	1883
Dauberville	Concrete	300	1908	

TULPEHOCKEN CREEK, 14

Bushong's	Wooden	330	
Wertz' Mill	Wooden	204	1867
Van Reed's	Wooden	144	1866
Reber's	Wooden	129	
Blue Marsh	Wooden	120	1846
Stamm's	Iron	153	1887
Speicher's	Iron	200	1878
Conrad's	Wooden	145	1839
Schaeffer's Ford	Iron	75	1889
Sunday's Mill	Iron	90	1903
Krick's Mill	Beam Deck	74	1900
Charming Forge	Wooden	186	1872
Womelsdorf	Stone Arch	153	1816
Scharff's	Concrete Arch	180	1902

MANATAWNY CREEK, 9

Egolf	Iron	141	1832
Glendale	Wooden	101	
Pine Iron Works	Wooden	154	1855
Weidner's	Iron	102	1898
Fisher's	Wooden	129	1854
Heist's	Iron	142	1878
Earlville	Wooden	130	1856
Baum's	Iron	134	1878
Griesemer's Mill	Wooden	124	

ONTELAUNEE CREEK, 12

Schlegel's	Wooden	101	1812
Wiley's	Iron	202	1883
Maiden-creek	Stone Arch	311	1854
Evansville	Tubular	163	1874
Moselem	Wooden	145	1851
Virginville	Wooden	164	
Dreibelbis	Wooden	172	1869
Lenhartsville	Wooden	182	1868
Greenawalt's	Wooden	1034	1875
Albany	Iron Pony	78	1884
Kempton	Wooden	103	1887
Trexler's	Stone Arch	161	1841

RAILROAD BRIDGES.—Thirteen substantial bridges have been erected across the river by the several railroad companies operating in the county, viz.:

Philadelphia & Reading Railroad, four—one near Tuckerton—high arch, built of stone; one, of iron, at Birdsboro; and two, of iron, on "Belt Line," one above Reading and the other below.

Lebanon Valley Railroad, one, within limits of Reading, built of iron.

Berks County Railroad (now Schuylkill & Lehigh), three—one at and two below Reading, built of wood.

Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad, five—one near Hamburg; one at Reading and two below; and one at Douglassville; all built of iron.

ROADS AND TURNPIKES

INDIAN PATHS.—There were paths through this section of country long before Reading was laid out. The "Schuylkill Ford" was a central point for the Indians. Nature would seem to have selected the site for the town rather than the Penns.

TULPEHOCKEN ROAD.—The earliest mention of a road in this vicinity is the road which was marked out in 1687, from the Delaware at Philadelphia to the Susquehanna, by way of this ford, and was known for many years as the "Tulpehocken road." In 1768, a road was regularly laid out from Reading to the Susquehanna, at "Fort Augusta," by way of Middletown (now Womelsdorf) and Rehrrer's Tavern (now Rehrrersburg), over the Blue and Broad Mountains, in pursuance of a petition from a considerable number of inhabitants of the county. The report was presented to the executive council on Jan. 19, 1769. The road began "at the east end of Penn street, in the town of Reading, and extended through the same to the banks of the river Schuyl-

kill, west 346 perches; thence south 87 degrees, west 33 perches across said river; thence four courses westwardly with a total distance of 1,157 perches to Sinking Spring Town; thence by fifteen courses, westwardly, a total distance of 2,814 perches to Second street, in Middletown (now Womelsdorf); thence across the Tulpehocken creek, and by way of John Rice's tavern and Nicholas Kinser's, northwestwardly to Godfried Rehner's tavern (now Rehnersburg), and thence by way of Henry Derr's house to Fort Henry, and over the Blue mountain, etc., in a northwestwardly course to Fort Augusta."

Berks and Dauphin Turnpike.—Fifty years afterward, this road from Reading to Middletown, and thence westwardly through Dauphin county, became a turnpike, a company for this purpose having been incorporated in 1805, under the name of "Berks and Dauphin Turnpike Company." The turnpike, however, was not begun until in 1816, just after the Penn street bridge had become passable. It was finished in 1817, and it was maintained successfully for nearly ninety years. In 1905, the company voluntarily released the toll charge for use of pike by removal of toll-gates, to a point two miles west of the bridge; and it was freed to Wernersville, eight miles, in 1906 by the assessment of damages.

Hamburg and Schuylkill Gap; and northwestwardly over Broad Mountain, by way of a point now Ashland, to Sunbury. A company for this purpose was incorporated in 1805, called "Centre Turnpike Company." The turnpike was completed shortly before 1812. It was operated successfully and tolls were exacted until 1885, when it was abandoned.

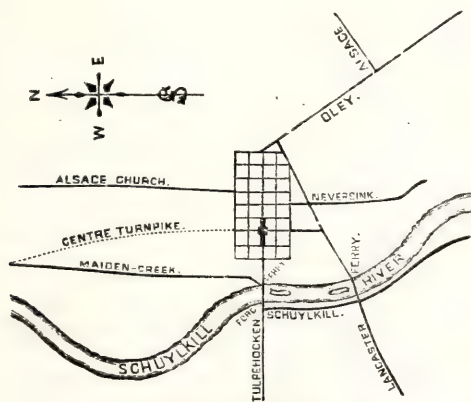
Oley Road.—In September, 1727, a petition was presented to the court at Philadelphia for a road to extend from the "Lutheran Meeting-house" at the Tulpehocken creek to the highroad at the "Quaker Meeting-house," near George Boone's mill, in Oley. Eight years afterward, the court appointed Mordecai Lincoln, Marcus Hulings, James Thompson, Peter Robeson, Benjamin Boon and Thomas Potts to lay out this road from the highroad westwardly to the Schuylkill ford. They reported a road at June session, 1736, which began at the ford, and proceeded a little south of east, in almost a direct line, to a road called the "King's Highway." Its eastern terminus was at a point now Amityville.

Perkiomen Turnpike.—The road just mentioned was the road to Philadelphia for many years, until a road from a point near the "Black Bear Inn," by way of Bishop's Mill, to a point near Molatton church, now at Douglassville, was substituted. In 1810, a turnpike was authorized to be constructed on this latter road from Reading, by way of "White Horse Tavern" (Douglassville) and Pottsgrove, to Perkiomen Mills, at Perkiomen creek. In 1811, commissioners were named, and they immediately commenced its construction, completing it in four years at an average cost of \$7,000 per mile. It was made free in 1902.

In 1822 the State held subscriptions of stock in the three turnpike companies, as follows: Berks and Dauphin, \$29,000 (individual subscription \$63,905); Centre, \$80,000 (individual subscription \$62,000); Perkiomen, \$53,000 (individual subscription \$133,000). Length reported: first, 34 miles; second, 75 miles; third, 28 3-4 miles.

Oley Turnpike.—The road from the "Old Philadelphia Road," near Schwartzwald Church, to the King's Highway (Pleasantville to Amityville) was laid out and confirmed in 1755. The "Oley Turnpike" is constructed on this road from Jacksonwald eastward. The company for this superior, well-kept turnpike was incorporated in 1862. The road extends from "Black Bear Inn" to Pleasantville, ten miles, and the total cost was \$50,000.

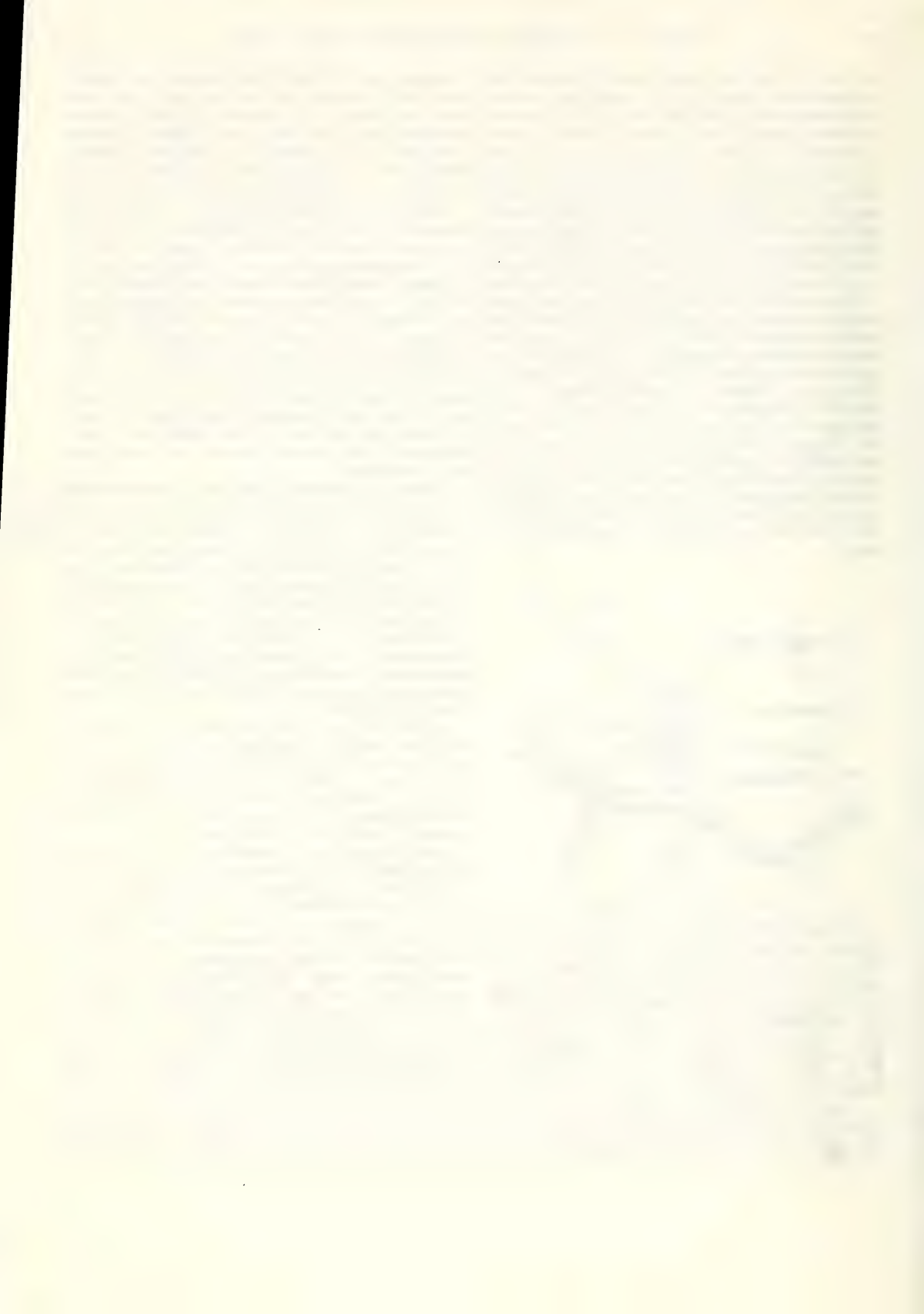
Schuylkill Road.—A road was ordered by the court of Lancaster county in 1750 to be laid out from Chester county line, in Caernarvon township, in a northwestwardly direction to Reading. It was surveyed by George Boone, and reported in 1751. This is the road from Warwick Furnace, by way of Plow tavern and Green Tree tavern, through Union, Robeson and Cumru townships and along the western bank of the Schuylkill, to the Tulpe-



PLAN OF ROADS TO READING

MAIDEN-CREEK ROAD.—A road was surveyed by Samuel Lightfoot in 1745, from Francis Parvin's mill, near the mouth of the Maiden creek, southwardly to the ford, the present site of Reading, in almost a straight line about six miles in length, and confirmed in June of that year. In 1753, it was regularly laid out from Reading northwardly, and extended to Easton by commissioners from Berks and Northampton counties who were appointed by the executive council at Philadelphia.

Centre Turnpike.—A turnpike was constructed on this road from Callowhill street in Reading, over the "long hill" (at cemetery) to the mouth of the Maiden creek, and thence northwardly by way of



hocken road opposite Reading. It was twelve and a half miles in length.

OTHER ROADS.—*Neversink Road*, from Reading southwardly to Flying Hill, in 1753.

Alsace Church Road, from Reading northwardly through Alsace township, in 1753.

Lancaster Road, from Reading southwestwardly through Cumru township, in 1762.

Sunbury Road, from the fork in the Schuylkill above the Blue Mountain to the fork in the Susquehanna at Sunbury—fifty-five miles, in 1770.

Bern Road, from Reading northwestwardly over the Schuylkill at a point now occupied by the Schuylkill avenue bridge, through Bern township, in 1772.

Alsace Road, from Reading eastwardly through Alsace township into Oley, to a point in the "King's Highway" (supposed to be near Friedensburg, and now called the Friedensburg road), in 1776.

PLAN OF ROADS TO READING.—The accompanying plan will indicate in a general way how the prominent roads extended from Reading during its earlier history, and these have continued to be the chief thoroughfares for travel till now.

STATE HIGHWAYS.—The substantial improvement of the public roads was a subject of discussion for many years, but it was not until 1905 that any special legislation was secured. The taxpayers of Berks county immediately began to show their appreciation of the State's liberality. Cumru township was the first to take practical steps by ordering the improvement of that portion of the Lancaster road from the Schuylkill river to the Three-Mile-House in Shillington, commonly called the "Three-Mile-House-Road," and it was constructed under the supervision of the State Highway Commissioner by Adam R. Leader of Reading, as the contractor, during 1905-06-07, at a total cost of \$18,326; of which the county paid one-sixth and the township one-sixth. This section of road had been used a great deal for driving purposes for many years and this marked improvement increased its use. Some time before 1905 it had been improved by the expenditure of a considerable sum of money (about \$500) with the assent of the township supervisors, which had been collected mostly from the drivers of speedy horses at Reading.

The next township to take up the matter successfully was Washington and in 1908 the State Department looked after the construction of a new highway from Barto to Bally and thence toward Shultzville and Shultz's grist-mill, upward of three miles. The total cost, including fine concrete bridge, was about \$43,000, of which the county paid one-eighth and the township one-eighth (the reduced proportion having been caused by the amended road law of 1907).

And the third township was Amity, for the improvement of the road from Amityville, via Weaverstown, to the Monocacy creek, about two miles in length. It was constructed in 1908, including a superior concrete bridge.

STAGES

The first coach in New England began its trips in 1744. The first stage line between New York and Philadelphia (then the two most populous cities in the Colonies) was established in 1756. The trip was made in three days. When the Revolution began, most of these public conveyances ceased to run, and they did not take the road till the return of peace.

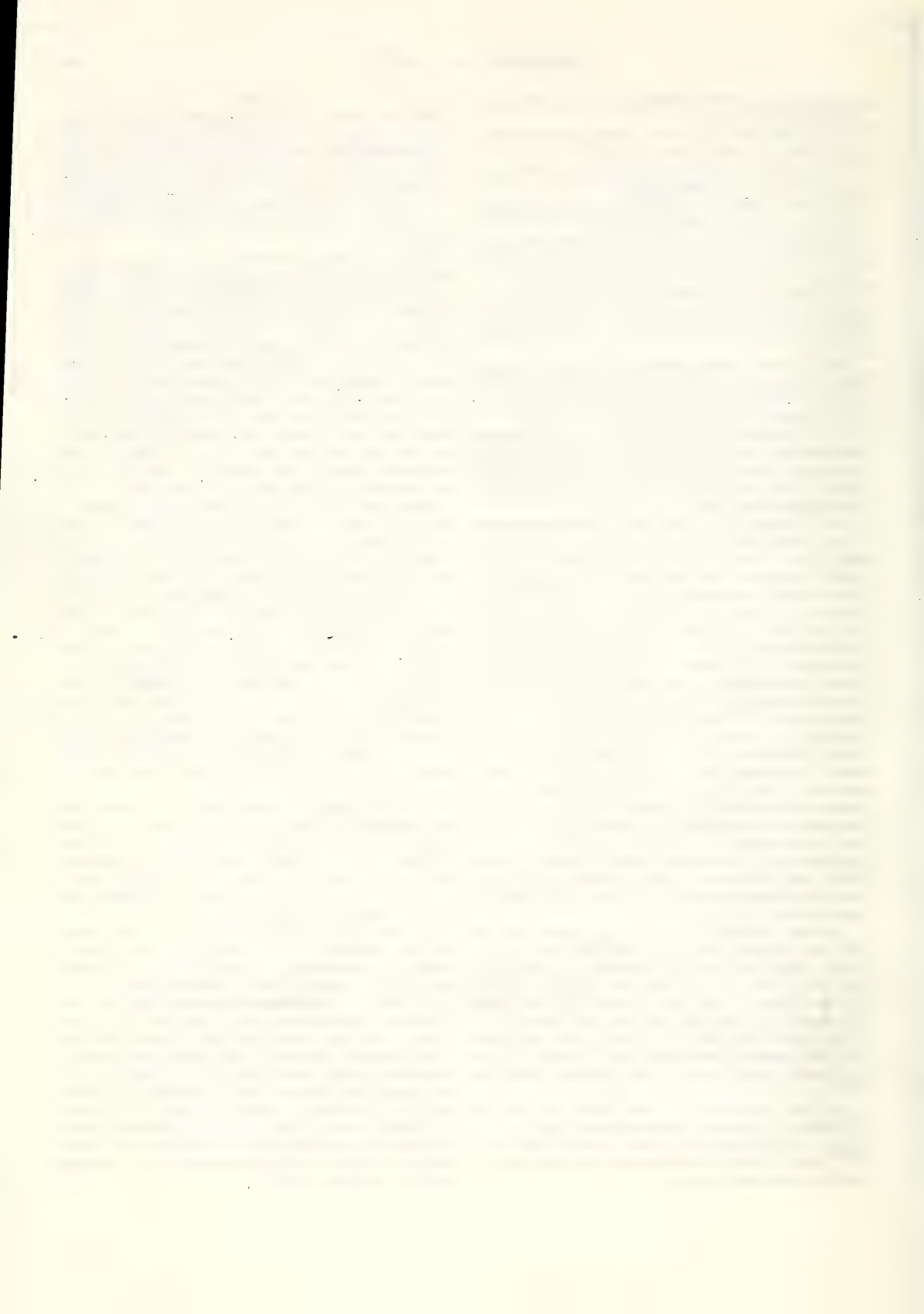
The first public conveyance at Reading was a two-horse coach. It was instituted by Martin Hausman in 1789, and traveled weekly between Reading and Philadelphia for the transportation of passengers and letters. The distance was about fifty-one miles, and the passage was made in two days. The fare was two dollars, and letter carriage three pence. During that year, he transferred the established business to Alexander Eisenbeis, who operated it two years, and sold it to William Coleman. From that time onward, for nearly seventy years, without intermission, the Coleman family were prominent throughout eastern Pennsylvania for their connection with this great enterprise.

Soon after Coleman had obtained possession of this stage line, he extended it westwardly, by way of Womelsdorf and Lebanon, to Harrisburg; and northwardly, by way of Hamburg, Orwigsburg, Sharp Mountain Gap and over the Broad Mountain, to Sunbury. In 1818, the stages ran twice a week from Philadelphia to Sunbury. They left Philadelphia on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 3 A. M.; arrived at Reading at 5 P. M., and lodged at Hamburg on the same days; and on the following mornings left at 3 A. M. and arrived at Sunbury on the succeeding days at 10 A. M. And they ran thrice a week from Philadelphia to Harrisburg—Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays; leaving Philadelphia at 4 A. M., lodging at Reading, and arriving at Harrisburg the next evening. The same order was observed in returning.

In 1820 William Coleman died. His widow carried on the stage lines for a year, when their sons John and Nicholas purchased and conducted them. In 1823, they ran weekly stages to the southwest to Lancaster, over a natural road, in length thirty-two miles; and to the northeast to Easton, over a natural road, in length fifty miles.

In 1825, Colder & Wilson ran the "mail stage" between Reading and Harrisburg three times a week. The passenger fare was 50 cents to Womelsdorf; \$1 to Lebanon, and \$2 to Harrisburg.

In 1826, a combination was made between the Colemans, Jacob Peters, and Colder & Co., to run a daily line of stages between Philadelphia and Harrisburg via Reading. The stages left Philadelphia daily except Monday at 4 A. M., dined at Reading, lodged at Lebanon, and proceeded to Harrisburg next morning. Returning, they left Harrisburg daily, except Tuesday, in the afternoon, lodged at Lebanon, took breakfast at Reading next morning and arrived at Philadelphia at 8 P. M. Through fare, \$6; to Reading, \$3.



From the beginning till 1826, the stage-coach in use was called a "steamboat"—an uncovered wagon, capable of holding twenty passengers. Then a sharp competition arose between three lines; first, the "Old Line" (Coleman's), which conveyed the mails; second, Reeside & Platt's; and third, Milmore & Mintzer's. A new and improved stage-coach was introduced as a consequence, called the "Troy Coach." It held eleven passengers, with room for five or more on top. In 1830, the competition was full of life. The rates were reduced one-half. But the "Old Line" forced the others to withdraw. Its mail contracts were a great support and enabled it to bear the pressure. It had a hundred horses always on hand.

DECLINE OF STAGES.—The stage business continued active and profitable in the several directions from Reading till the introduction of the railways, when it was discontinued. The stage-coach could not compete with the railroad train, or horse-power with steam-power; and in this respect, as in others, the fittest and strongest survived. The discontinuance on the several lines was as follows: From Philadelphia, 1838; from Pottsville, 1842; from Harrisburg, 1858; from Allentown, 1859; from Lancaster, 1864.

The following stage lines (all carrying merchandise and passengers, and several also mail) are still operated to and from Reading to accommodate the public:

Boyertown line, via Yellow House, daily.....	17 miles
Friedensburg line, via Stony Creek Mills, daily....	9 miles
Pleasantville line, via Oley Turnpike, tri-weekly..	14 miles
Bernville line, via State Hill, daily.....	14 miles
Terre Hill line, via Angelica, tri-weekly.....	16 miles
Hummel's Store line, via Green Tree, daily.....	15 miles
Strawtown and Womelsdorf line, daily.....	12 miles
Strausstown and Hamburg line, daily.....	12 miles
Millersburg and Myerstown, daily.....	8 miles

CANALS

Great internal improvements in this country were first projected in Pennsylvania, and the enterprise of her early citizens directed public attention to the establishment of canals and turnpikes for convenient transportation. In 1690, William Penn suggested the idea of connecting the Susquehanna and Schuylkill rivers by means of a canal, but it was not acted upon. Seventy years afterward, this idea was again considered, and then a survey was made by David Rittenhouse and others. A course was marked out for a canal between these two rivers, but nearly seventy years more elapsed before the great scheme was realized and put into practical and successful operation.

UNION CANAL.—In 1791, the Legislature of Pennsylvania passed an Act incorporating the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Navigation Company, for the purpose of connecting the two rivers by a canal, and facilitating traffic; and in 1792, another company was chartered, under the name of the Delaware and Schuylkill Canal Company, for the purpose of extending a canal from the eastern termi-

nus of the canal mentioned at Reading, along the Schuylkill to the Delaware river at Philadelphia. These canals were to be part of a great scheme conceived by an association of enterprising individuals in order to promote internal improvements, whereby Philadelphia and Pittsburg were to be connected by water communication.

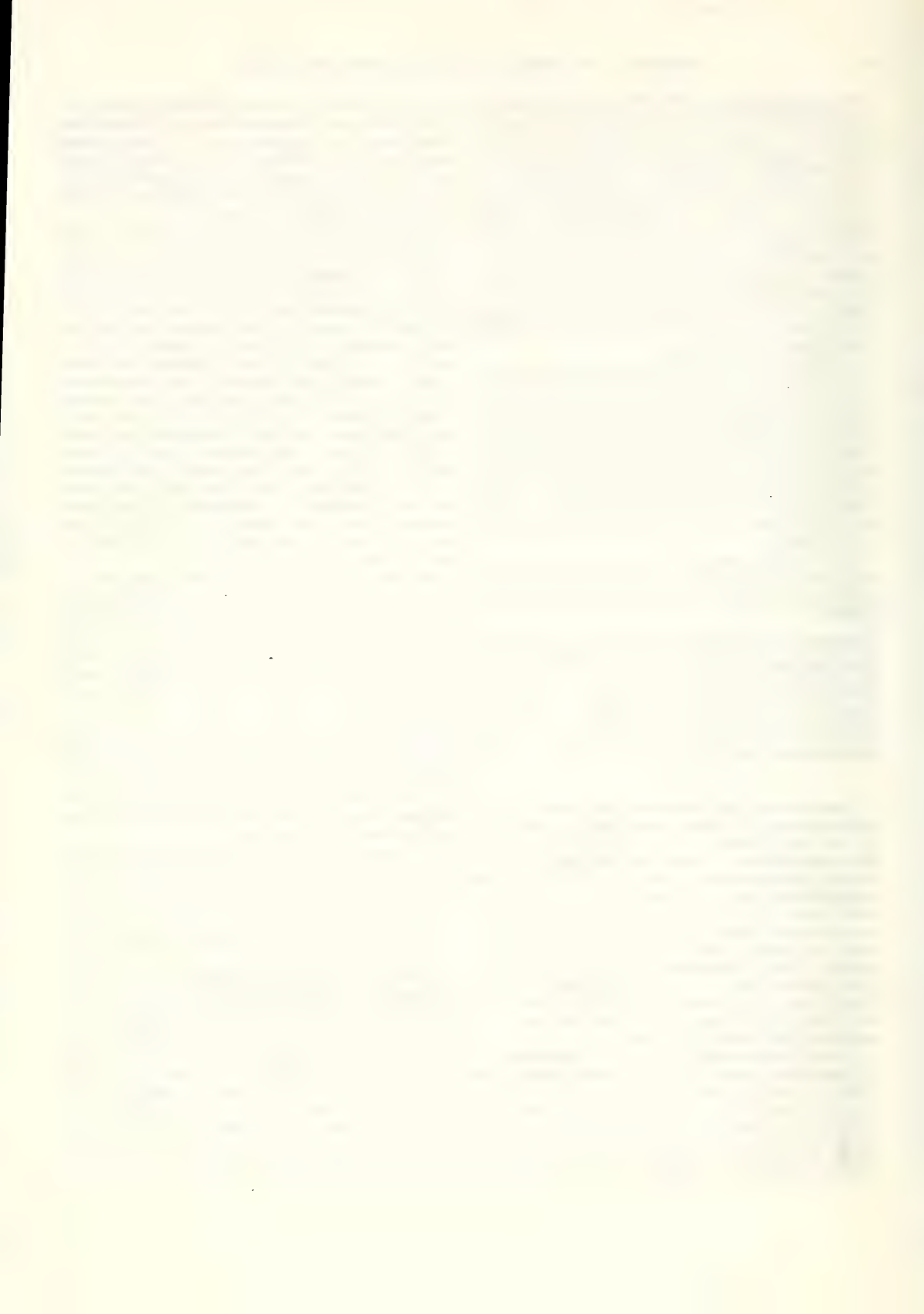
On April 2, 1811, an Act was passed to incorporate "The Union Canal Company of Pennsylvania." The name was chosen because the new corporation was really a union of the old Schuylkill and Susquehanna and the Delaware and Schuylkill Canal Companies. The preamble recited that those corporations had made strenuous efforts to carry out the objects of their charters, but failed. A new company was formed by the stockholders of the old corporations, but seventeen years passed before the canal was finished. The first canal-boat, which went west, left Philadelphia on March 20, 1828, by way of the Schuylkill canal to Reading, and thence by the Union canal to Middletown, arriving at the latter place on the 23d. The event was duly celebrated at Middletown. There were seventeen Union canal boats in service in July, that year, and over two hundred were in operation before the end of the year.

The length of the canal was 79½ miles, with 91 locks, 8 basins, 93 bridges, 16 dams, and 17 aqueducts. From the summit (four miles east of Lebanon) to the mouth of Tulpehocken creek the distance was 37 miles. This section of the canal was 26 feet wide at bottom, and 36 feet at water surface; depth of water, 4 feet, and width of towing path, 10 feet.

The number of locks required to overcome the fall of 310 feet was 52. The locks were faced with dressed sandstone; chambers 8½ feet wide and 75 feet long; and lifts varying from 5 to 8 feet. About 1855, the locks were enlarged to correspond with the locks of the Pennsylvania canal, from the Swatara eastwardly to Reading.

The success of this canal was dependent upon the construction of a similar canal along the Schuylkill, in order to encourage traffic from the Susquehanna to Philadelphia by way of Reading. A company had been chartered in 1815 for this purpose, which began the improvement desired, and finished it in 1825.

In 1830, the canal was extended along the western bank of the Schuylkill, three miles below Reading, to the Little Dam, having its outlet in the Big Dam, about a thousand feet farther down. But this portion was washed so badly by the freshet of 1850 that it was rendered useless, and connection was made with the Schuylkill canal at a lock near the Harrisburg bridge. At this point, about 1828, the company had constructed a dam called "Union Dam" (commonly known as "Lotz's Dam"), for the purpose of forming a connection with the Schuylkill canal; and this was the only



connection till 1855, when the canal was extended to a point opposite "Jackson's Lock," at the foot of Sixth street, where connection was afterward made.

In order to form an idea of the extent and growth of the business over this canal, soon after it was completed, the following statistics are presented:

For the week ending May 27, 1831, 80 boats passed Reading going down, 45 loaded with lumber and coal, and the others with flour, whi-key, castings, etc.; and 60 passed going up, 17 loaded with merchandise. For the week ending June 14, 1835, 125 loaded boats passed down, and 112 loaded boats passed up. Some years afterward, the tonnage and tolls were as follows:

	Tons	Tolls
1847.....	139,256	\$91,356
1848.....	153,222	95,953
1849.....	148,332	\$6,800

The boats were diminutive, being only 18 tons' capacity at the opening of the canal; afterward, in 1828, increased to 23 tons; and afterward, the size was increased until 1845, when the capacity was 60 tons.

LOTTERY PRIVILEGES.—The amount of money raised in the course of the prosecution of the canal enterprise, between the Schuylkill and Susquehanna rivers, was enormous, not so much from the actual cost of the improvements as in the wasteful way in which the money was raised, and the amount taken from the community which did no good to the undertaking. The capital of the two companies was insufficient for the execution of the work, and the Legislature granted them power to raise money "by way of lottery." The whole amount specified in the grant was \$400,000, of which the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Company was to have two-thirds, and the Delaware and Schuylkill Company one-third. This Act was passed April 17, 1795, and under it the companies exercised the privilege of issuing lottery tickets. Until 1810, the companies had realized only \$60,000, a sum wholly insufficient for their purposes. They complained that their affairs "had fallen into disorder and embarrassment; that they were covered with reproach and ridicule," and that the public confidence was impaired. This led to the union of the two corporations in 1811. In the Act, the lottery privileges were renewed; and, as the company had not made much by their own management, they were empowered to sell or assign their lottery rights to any persons whom they might select. So the company leased out the lottery privileges and under this arrangement the lotteries became very successful. The managers took in large amounts of money, but the Canal Company did not have much added to their funds, and a report to the Legislature stated that the lottery managers made many millions, while the Union Canal Company got but \$269,210. This caused great scandal.

An Act was passed for the suppression of lotteries in Pennsylvania after March 1, 1833, which

declared that the lottery rights of the company were exhausted, and prohibited the sale of lottery tickets of any kind after Dec. 31st of that year. But, as a compensation for the privileges taken from the company, the Governor was authorized to subscribe for one thousand shares of stock on behalf of the State of Pennsylvania.

The lotteries of the Union Canal Company were drawn at stated periods from the gallery of the stairs in the tower of the State-house, which led to the upper chambers, and the drawings were attended by hundreds of persons.

The canal was supposed to be the only possible means of conveyance, except by the common road, long after all the companies connected with the navigation of the Schuylkill had been chartered. But the Columbia railroad, under the management of the State, began to be a rival of the Union canal in bringing produce and passengers from the Susquehanna as soon as it was finished. The movement for its establishment commenced in 1826, when a company was incorporated to build a railroad from Lancaster and Columbia to Philadelphia. The plan not proving successful, in 1828 the State authorized a survey and followed it up in after years by appropriations, under which the work was carried on. The road was finished to Lancaster in April, 1834, and opened through to Columbia in the summer of 1835. Just as soon as this means of transportation was finished, the Union Canal Company lost a large share of its business and prospects. The railroad offered a shorter route and quicker method of communication between the Susquehanna and Delaware rivers. The opening of the Lebanon Valley railroad from Reading to Harrisburg in 1857, through the same section of territory, proved the final and crushing blow to the Union Canal Company. From that time onward it began to decline more and more until it was finally abandoned, about 1890.

SCHUYLKILL CANAL.—The Schuylkill Canal Navigation Company was incorporated on March 8, 1815, for the purpose of transporting coal, lumber, merchandise, produce, etc., by a system of canals and slackwater navigation, by appropriating the water of the Schuylkill river from Mill creek, in Schuylkill county, to Philadelphia. The transportation of articles was then carried on over the Centre turnpike to Reading, and the Perkiomen and Germantown turnpikes to Philadelphia. Certain commissioners were named in the Act, and they were directed to open subscription books at various places in May, 1815. The par value of a share of stock was fixed at fifty dollars, and twenty-five hundred shares were to be subscribed at Reading—one-fourth of the total shares.

The first board of directors was elected at Norristown on Oct. 5, 1815. It included two members from Berks county—Lewis Reese, of Reading, and John Wiley, of Maiden-creek. Samuel Baird, of

Pottsgrove (now Pottstown), was also a member, but he soon afterward removed to Reading and practised law.

The construction of the canal was begun in 1817, and completed in 1822, from John Potts's, at the mines, to within one-half a mile of Hamburg, below the Blue Mountain. The lower section, from the Schuylkill bridge at Philadelphia to Reading, had been finished. Boats carried during 1821 over the completed portion of the canal, from the coal mines to the vicinity of Hamburg, large quantities of coal, which were deposited there and sold out by the ton to the country people from the neighborhood and for many miles distant. The unfinished portion of the canal was reported to have been completed during the year 1822; and this was the first completed navigation in the country.

The total length from Mount Carbon to Philadelphia was 105 miles (62 of canal and 43 of pools in river), with a fall of 588 feet; including 120 locks (81 above Reading and 39 below); 28 dams, 17 arched stone aqueducts, and a tunnel 450 feet long, cut through solid rock. The total cost was \$1,800,000.

In 1827-28, the canal was extended to Mill creek, making the total length 108.23 miles; and, by an enlargement in 1846, the number of locks was reduced to 71, with a total fall of about 620 feet. The size of the locks was 18 by 110 feet; width of canal, 60 feet; depth of water, 6 feet. The capacity of boats was 180 tons.

The cost of transportation by land from Reading to Philadelphia was 40 cents a hundredweight; by canal it was reduced to 12½ cents. The toll on coal from Mt. Carbon to Philadelphia in 1825 was 6 cents a bushel or \$1.68 a ton.

Horses or mules were not used for towing boats previous to 1826. The boats were first towed through the canals by men at the end of long tow-lines. Two men drew a boat after them by pressing their shoulders or breasts against a stick fastened crosswise to the end of the tow-line. With such locomotion, a trip from Mount Carbon to Philadelphia and back generally required six weeks. At this time there were no tow-paths along the pools of the navigation; hence the necessity for man-power.

The following statistics show the great traffic over the canal during the first five years after its completion:

Passed down Canal	1826	1827	1828	1829	1830
Barrels of flour.....	21,245	31,436	105,835	1,542,231	1,779
Tons of coal.....	10,707	31,930	47,284	79,976	89,984
Tons of iron ore.....	2,541	1,472	1,074	556	662
Tons of iron.....		1,533	1,853	958	1,125
Tons of whiskey.....	420	483	1,152	808	1,146
Total tons descending.....	25,561	53,782	84,133	112,794	120,531
Total tons ascending.....	6,843	11,719	21,329	21,800	44,274
Total tolls received.....	\$43,108	\$58,149	\$87,171	\$120,029	\$148,165

¹ In tons.

The traffic continued to increase from year to year. In 1842, it was over 500,000 tons, and the

tolls over \$400,000. Ample dividends were made; and shares, which cost originally \$50, were sold as high as \$175, and even \$180. In 1851, the total tonnage was 842,097 tons, of which there were 579,156 tons of coal; and the total toll was \$285,621. After 1861, the canal tonnage reached in some years nearly 1,400,000 tons of coal and 300,000 tons of merchandise and miscellaneous articles. The capacity of the canal was estimated at 1,800,000 tons descending, and at least 500,000 tons ascending.

The boats were from 17 to 17½ feet wide, and 100 to 101 and 102 feet long, with a maximum capacity of 190 tons.

After the year 1858, the company offered premiums for dispatch in transportation. Two boats competed energetically and proved that a trip from Port Carbon to New York and return could be made in seven days. This was regarded as an extraordinary performance. The interest taken in this contest was so great that a boat came to be loaded at the canal landings in eighteen minutes from the time the boat reached the wharf till the trip was resumed. Finally, trouble was anticipated from this rivalry and the company put an end to it. The company continued to operate this great enterprise till 1870, when they leased it to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company for a term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years.

PACKETS.—In 1825, John and Nicholas Coleman introduced the system of running packets through the canal from Reading to Philadelphia. Trips were made three times a week. The fare was \$2.50, and a trip was made in a day. The packets had no berths for sleeping purposes, but a large dining-room. Cooking was done aboard, and meals were furnished.

These packets were well patronized, and continued in successful operation till about 1832, when the increasing traffic on the canal forced them to be withdrawn. Theretofore boats, loaded and empty, would turn out or lay over for an approaching packet, which was given the right of way.

The first steamboat on the canal came from Philadelphia to Reading on Dec. 5, 1826. Twenty years afterward, a line of Steam Packets was begun between Reading and Philadelphia. The first packet arrived on Sept. 28, 1846. It was built of iron, with two Ericson propellers, 85 feet long, and 13½ feet wide. They departed from Reading every day, except Sunday, at 2 P. M., and arrived at Philadelphia the next morning. And they departed from Philadelphia and arrived at Reading on the same time. The fare was \$1 a trip. But this enterprise did not continue long in operation.

RAILWAYS

The first railway in Pennsylvania was built in 1827 from Mauch Chunk to Summit Hill, in length nine miles. It was constructed to complete the transportation of coal from Mine Hill to Philadel-

phia. From Mauch Chunk to Philadelphia a canal had been constructed shortly before by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company. But the canal could not be extended to Mine Hill; so the company was compelled to build a railway to take the place of ordinary roads. Soon afterward, The Little Schuylkill Railroad Company was incorporated, and it constructed the railroad from Tamaqua to Port Clinton.

P. & R. R.—In 1833, a railroad was projected from Port Clinton *via* Reading to Philadelphia. The Little Schuylkill Railroad Company was authorized to extend its railroad to Reading, and to construct one from Reading to Philadelphia. A company was chartered on April 4, 1833, under the name of the "Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company." Twenty-seven commissioners were appointed, including George de B. Keim, Matthias S. Richards, Isaac Hiester and James Everhart, of Reading. Immediate steps were taken to construct this road. A considerable portion was finished during 1835. By December, 1837, one track of the road was completed from Reading to Pottstown. An excursion party, comprising one hundred citizens of Reading, made a trip on the 6th of December in five freight cars, temporarily fitted up with seats and drawn by five horses. It started from the depot at 9 A. M., and arrived at Pottstown in two and three quarters hours, including all stops. In returning, it left at 2 P. M. and arrived at Reading at 5 P. M. The first regular train from Reading to Pottstown ran on May 1, 1838; to Norristown, on July 16, 1838; and to Philadelphia in December, 1839. The fare was: First-class, \$2.50; second-class, \$2.

The Little Schuylkill Railroad Company being unable to construct the road from Port Clinton to Reading, the charter of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Co. was therefore extended to cover the construction and operation of a railroad from Reading to Pottsville; and notwithstanding the financial difficulties which prevailed about 1838, the project was completed within four years afterward. The first train ran over the whole line from Philadelphia to Pottsville, ninety-three miles, on Jan. 1, 1842, and the road was opened for general travel on the 10th. The second track was laid in 1843, and opened for travel in January, 1844. The distance from Reading to Philadelphia was traveled in two hours; to Pottsville in one hour and twenty minutes.

In the establishment of this great enterprise, the construction of two long tunnels is worthy of mention—one near Phoenixville, in length 1,931 feet, at a cost of \$150,000; the other near Port Clinton, in length 1,606 feet, at a cost of \$125,782. The latter extends through the Blue Mountain, and the depth from the surface at the top of the mountain is 119 feet. A third tunnel was constructed at Manayunk, in length 940 feet, costing \$75,000. The Phoenixville and Manayunk tunnels were enlarged in 1859.

A superior, large stone bridge across the Schuylkill, above Tuckerton, is also noteworthy.

The introduction of this railway immediately stimulated enterprise at Reading, and caused energy and capital to be directed toward manufacturing. The increasing tide of affairs induced people and capital to concentrate here more and more every succeeding year; and buildings multiplied rapidly to answer the demands of the increasing population. The company established its workshops here when the railway was completed, and these have grown here in capacity with the ever-increasing traffic of the road. The first large shop occupied the half block on the west side of Seventh street between Franklin and Chestnut streets, where it continued for over sixty years. Its extensive and costly shops are now situated along the northern extremity of Sixth street. Each succeeding decade found the company with more extended shops of all kinds for the manufacture of engines and cars, affording in the meantime constant employment for an ever-increasing number of workmen. The total annual income to the people of Reading from this single source during the past seventy years counts into millions of dollars, all of which contributed directly toward the substantial growth of this community, in its buildings, stores, factories, churches and schools.

The passenger station (or "depot" as it was generally called) was located at the northwest corner of Seventh and Chestnut streets, and continued there till 1874, when it was removed to the "junction" of the Lebanon Valley and East Pennsylvania railroads, nearly a mile to the north, called "Main Station," where a fine large building had been erected. This was done to accommodate the large passenger traffic. It is surmounted with a large and elevated clock-tower. Extensive covered platforms are constructed over the three roads, nearly a half-mile in length; eastern, 1,038 feet; northwestern, 709 feet; southwestern, 692 feet; the first being 47 feet wide, and the others 42. The passenger trains to Philadelphia and Pottsville pass through the first; those to Harrisburg and to Allentown through the second; and those to Columbia, Slatington, and Wilmington, through the third. It was begun in 1871, and completed in 1874, when the lower station was abandoned. In 1884 the company re-established the station at Franklin street.

The stations in the county are the following: Douglassville, Monocacy, Birdsboro, Exeter, Franklin Street, Reading, Tuckerton, Leesport, Mohrsville, Shoemakersville, Bern, Hamburg. The length of the railway from the southern extremity of the county to the northern is forty miles.

The train service for passengers, coal and freight over the Philadelphia & Reading railroad and its several branches, is very extensive, as will appear by the following statistics for July, 1908, at Reading:

Passenger trains.....	94
Coal and freight—	
Main Line.....	90
Lebanon Valley.....	65
East Penn.....	48
Reading & Columbia.....	12
Wilmington & Northern.....	19
Schuylkill & Lehigh.....	4

LEBANON VALLEY.—An Act was passed April 1, 1836, incorporating the "Lebanon Valley Railroad Company," for a railroad from Reading to Harrisburg. It required an actual subscription of four thousand shares of stock before the charter should become operative. This number could not be obtained by private subscriptions, and the project was allowed to slumber for seventeen years. In 1853, the idea was conceived that Lebanon and Reading, as municipal organizations, should encourage the enterprise by a large subscription of the stock, the former, two thousand shares, and the latter, six thousand.

A supplementary Act was accordingly passed on April 5, 1853, with a provision that the subject of a subscription be submitted to the taxables of the respective places. The city councils of Reading discussed this subject on May 11, 1853, and ordered an election to be held on June 15th following. This election was to decide for or against a subscription of four thousand shares, amounting to \$200,000. The result of the election was 1,658 for subscription, and 682 against. The election having terminated favorably, certain taxables applied to the Supreme court for an injunction, but it was refused. The subscription by the city councils was made, and in payment thereof city bonds were issued amounting to \$200,000. During the completion of the road an Act was passed, May 5, 1857, to authorize the consolidation of the Lebanon Valley Railroad Company with the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company, upon first obtaining consent of the stockholders. The city councils approved of the consolidation, especially upon having been assured by the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company that the city bonds would be returned and that its company would assume the subscription of four thousand shares. The road was completed, the consolidation effected, and the city bonds were returned.

Trains began to run to Lebanon in June, 1857; and to Harrisburg in January, 1858. Length of this railroad in the county, sixteen miles; with the following stations: Sinking Spring, Wernersville, Robesonia, Womelsdorf.

EAST PENN.—On March 9, 1856, an Act was passed incorporating the "Reading and Lehigh Railroad Company," for a railroad from the junction of the Philadelphia & Reading and the Lebanon Valley railroads at Reading, to the Lehigh Valley railroad at Allentown. The title of the company was changed to "East Pennsylvania Railroad Company," by Act passed April 21, 1857. The construction of the roadway began in June following. The

first ground was broken at a spot, now the highest point of the cut, a short distance north of Temple station, on June 11, 1857; and it was prosecuted with energy for two years. The last spike was driven on April 20, 1859, and the completion was signalized by a demonstration at Temple on May 11th. On that day, trains began to run between Reading and Allentown Junction, a distance of thirty-six miles. It was leased to the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Co. in May, 1869, by which it has been operated since.

The length of the railroad in the county is twenty-three miles, with the following stations: Temple, Blandon, Fleetwood, Lyons, Bowers, Tipton, Mertztown, Shamrock.

READING & COLUMBIA.—Whilst the Lebanon Valley and East Penn railroads were being constructed, the subject of extending a railroad from Sinking Spring (a station on the former) to Columbia was discussed with earnestness. In this behalf an Act was passed on May 19, 1857, incorporating the "Reading & Columbia Railroad Company," and naming fifteen commissioners. The first project was to extend the road from a point in Reading; but in 1861 an Act was passed authorizing a connection to be made with the former railroad at any point between Reading and Sinking Spring. Numerous meetings were held at Ephrata, Lancaster, Columbia and Reading, and reports pertaining to the business which the territory would afford were made to encourage the construction of the road; and these eventually terminated in its successful completion in March, 1864, from Sinking Spring to Columbia, a distance of forty miles. The first passenger train ran in May, 1864. The length of the railroad in the county is five miles, with two stations, Fritztown and Vinemont.

WILMINGTON & NORTHERN.—A railroad was also encouraged through the southern section of Berks county, by inhabitants of Robeson, Union and Caernarvon townships, and they obtained an Act on April 20, 1864. The road was to extend from a point on the Philadelphia & Reading railroad, at or near Birdsboro, by the most available route, to any railroad built in Chester county. The incorporated body was named Berks and Chester Railroad Company; and the company was authorized to construct branch railroads not exceeding nine miles in length. In 1866, authority was given to connect the road with the Delaware and Pennsylvania State Line railroad, and effect a consolidation with this company under the name of the Wilmington & Reading Railroad Company. The name was subsequently changed to Wilmington & Northern Railroad Company. The road was opened for travel as follows: From Wilmington to Coatesville, thirty-three miles, in December, 1869; to Birdsboro, sixty-three miles, in June, 1870; and to Reading, seventy-two miles, in February, 1874. It was constructed to a point in Poplar Neck, and the road from that point was extended through Reading by the Berks County Railroad Company.

The passenger station of the company at Reading was for a time at the southwest corner of Second and Cherry streets. In 1882 the company effected an arrangement to run its trains to and from the station of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company; and in 1902 the road was leased to the latter company.

The following stations are in the county: Birdsboro, White Bear, Geigertown, Joanna. The passenger station at Birdsboro is a handsome structure. Length in county, twenty miles.

WEST READING.—The manufacturers situated along the Schuylkill canal secured an Act on March 20, 1860, to construct a railroad from the Lebanon Valley railroad at Fourth street to a point on Canal street near the gas works, and to organize a company under the name of West Reading Railroad Company. The road was constructed, in length nearly two miles, and opened for traffic in 1863. This company operated it for ten years, and then transferred it to the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Co., by which company it has been used since, as a branch road in delivering and receiving freight.

COLEBROOKDALE.—In March, 1865, a railroad was constructed from the Philadelphia & Reading railroad at Pottstown to Boyertown and a company was incorporated under the name of "Colebrookdale Railroad Company." The road was constructed to Barto, a distance of nearly thirteen miles, and opened to travel in November, 1869.

The stations in the county are Manatawny, Ironstone, Colebrookdale, Boyertown, Bechtelsville, Barto. It was leased to the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company on Jan. 1, 1870, for twenty years, which lease was renewed.

KUTZTOWN BRANCH.—In 1854 a company was incorporated under the name of the Allentown Railroad Company, to construct a railroad from Allentown to the Philadelphia & Reading railroad at any point between Reading and Port Clinton; and if this railroad should not be extended by way of Kutztown, a branch should be constructed to that place. Subsequently a section of the road was constructed from Topton to Kutztown, in length four and a half miles, and opened for travel in January, 1870. It has been operated since by the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company under a lease.

SCHUYLKILL & LEHIGH.—In March, 1871, a company was incorporated for the purpose of constructing a railroad from a point on the Wilmington & Northern railroad, at or near Birdsboro, through Reading, to connect with any railroad or railroads in the county of Lehigh; commissioners were appointed and a company was created by the name of "Berks County Railroad Company," and it was constructed from the "Cut" in "Poplar Neck," through Reading, by way of the Maiden creek, to Slatington, where connection was made with the Lehigh Valley railroad, a total length of forty-five miles. The road was opened for travel in July, 1874. Shortly afterward, the road was sold and a reorganization effected under the name of "Berks &

Lehigh Railroad Company"; and subsequently this name was changed to "Schuylkill & Lehigh Railroad Company." The road is carried on by the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company under a lease. The length of the road in the county is twenty-four miles, and the stations are Maiden-creek, Evansville, Moselem, Virginville, Lenharts-ville, Kempton.

BELT LINE.—For a number of years the increasing traffic on the main line of the Philadelphia & Reading railroad rendered its passage through Reading more and more difficult to handle, and finally, in 1900, the management determined to relieve the great congestion which extended from the "Walnut street Cut" northward several miles, by constructing a "Belt Line" around Reading; which started at a point called the "Junction," in Muhlenberg township, about a mile north of the main station at Reading, thence crossing the river and passing through Bern, Spring and Cumru townships, and ending in the main line about two miles south of Reading. It was opened for traffic in 1902.

SIGNAL SERVICE.—From the beginning of the service on the P. & R. railroad the company maintained along the main line a number of "signal towers" for the purpose of notifying the trainmen as to the situation and movement of the trains; then the "Hall block system" was introduced, as a more reliable system, and it has proved very useful and satisfactory.

PENNSYLVANIA SCHUYLKILL VALLEY.—The Phoenixville, Pottstown & Reading Railroad Company was incorporated on Sept. 30, 1882, for operating a railroad from Phoenixville to Reading, by way of Pottstown; and on the same day, the Philadelphia, Norristown & Phoenixville Railroad Company was incorporated for operating a railroad from Philadelphia to Phoenixville. On May 1, 1883, these two companies were consolidated, under the name of Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad Company, and a month afterward a lease was effected with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The latter company then constructed the railroad from Philadelphia to Reading, by way of Norristown and Phoenixville, during 1883 and 1884, opening it to Reading on Nov. 15, 1884. In the course of its construction the company erected four substantial bridges across the Schuylkill within the county—Douglassville, Poplar Neck, Little Dam, and Reading—and three handsome passenger stations: Douglassville, Birdsboro, Reading.

The length of this railroad from Reading to the Montgomery county line is fourteen miles.

The Penn street bridge stood in the way of improvements by this company at the foot of Penn street, and, in pursuance of a proposition by this company to substitute a superior iron bridge in its place, at a cost of \$100,000, provided the county of Berks contributed \$33,000, the old wooden bridge was removed and the present handsome iron bridge was erected during the years 1884 and 1885.

The Reading & Pottsville Railroad Company was incorporated afterward for operating a railroad from Reading to Pottsville, by way of Hamburg and Port Clinton, and this was constructed during 1884 and 1885, as a continuation of the railroad from Philadelphia to the coal regions. It was opened to Hamburg on Dec. 7, 1885, and in 1886 to Pottsville. On Dec. 1, 1885, this road was also leased to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The company erected a fine station at Hamburg. The length of the railroad northward from Reading to the Schuylkill county line is twenty miles; and the total length in the county is thirty-four miles. A fifth bridge was constructed obliquely across the Schuylkill river at Hamburg.

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS.—Street railways began to be laid down in Reading in 1874, but a number of years elapsed before they were operated successfully. The first extensions of the system were made into the surrounding country districts as follows:

To the Black Bear Inn and Stony Creek in 1890; and an extension was made from a point near the latter place to Boyertown in 1902, by way of Jacksonwald, Oley Line, Friedensburg and Shanesville; and an extension from Black Bear Inn to Birdsboro in 1904 by way of Seyfert and Gibraltar.

To Shillington and Mohnsville (now Mohnton) in 1890; and an extension to Adamstown was constructed in 1894.

To Womelsdorf, on the bed of the Berks and Dauphin turnpike, in 1894.

To Temple in 1902; which was extended to Kutztown in 1904. A line had been extended from Allentown to Kutztown in 1898 and operated to that point. When the connection was made in 1904, through travel was effected from Reading to Allentown; and this route then began to be utilized for cheap Sunday excursions to New York in the summer season.

These suburban lines opened travel to all points surrounding Reading, excepting to Hamburg to the north, and to Bernville, Rehrersburg and Millersburg to the northwest. The former point is reached conveniently by two steam railways, but the latter can still only be reached by stage lines or by private conveyance.

The extension of these lines from Reading has encouraged building operations and the development of suburban towns to a remarkable degree, more especially since 1900. This is apparent at Hyde Park to the north; at Wyomissing to the west; at Oakbrook and Shillington to the southwest; and at Mt. Penn and Esterly to the southeast.

Additional lines are in contemplation: from Womelsdorf to Myerstown, westward; from Temple to Hamburg, northward; and from Lyons to Tipton and Emaus, northward.

A line was completed in 1908 from Pottstown to Boyertown via Ringing Rocks Park and Gilbertsville.

POST-OFFICES

The postal department of the public service is classed with the internal improvements of the country. The first attempt to systematize and regulate postal communication in the American Colonies was made by the British government in 1660; and this subject received the attention of William Penn shortly after his arrival in Pennsylvania, he having, in July, 1683, issued an order for the establishment of a post-office at Philadelphia. The postal facilities in that early period were only such as were afforded by personal accommodation among the colonists. In 1692, the rate of postage to and from Philadelphia, within a radius of eighty miles, was fourpence-halfpenny.

The office of Postmaster-General for America was created by Parliament in 1704. In 1737, Benjamin Franklin was appointed postmaster at Philadelphia, and in 1753, deputy postmaster-general. The delivery of letters by the penny post began in 1753; and also the practice of advertising unclaimed letters which remained in the office at Philadelphia.

In 1774 Franklin became obnoxious to the British government, and he was therefore dismissed. This caused private arrangements to be made for carrying letters, and in 1775, the Colonies established their own postal department, and on July 26th Franklin was unanimously chosen postmaster-general. This was an important action in connection with the movement for independence. In 1792, rates of postage were established, which remained unchanged for over fifty years.

READING OFFICE ESTABLISHED.—The first post-office in the county was established at Reading on March 20, 1793. The department had been in practical existence for nearly twenty years. The population here was large and business transactions were numerous, but correspondence was limited. Letters had been carried for several years previously by a stage line to Philadelphia and to Harrisburg, at the rate of threepence postage; and about the year 1800 they began to be carried to Sunbury once a week on horseback, and to Lancaster and Easton once a week in a private two-horse carriage. After the stage-coach had become a fixed mode of transportation for people and light articles of merchandise, at regular intervals, postal matter began to be carried by it from place to place.

The mails were carried by stages till the introduction of the railways; then passenger trains were substituted.

STAMPS.—No postage stamps were issued by the national government till August, 1847, when two denominations were issued—five-cent and ten-cent. The idea of using postage stamps was first suggested in 1841. Previously, postage had been collected entirely in money; and in all cases, pre-payment was optional. The two denominations mentioned continued in use four years; then new denominations for one cent and three cents appeared, and shortly afterward others for five, ten, twelve,



twenty-four, thirty and ninety cents. In 1861 this series was called in by the postmaster-general, and a new series issued. On July 1, 1863, the first two-cent stamp appeared; which was to accommodate local postage. In 1869 a new series was issued, of the denominations of one, two, three, five, six, ten, fifteen, thirty and ninety cents; and a year afterward, the following designs were adopted for these stamps: One-cent, Franklin; two-cent, Jackson; three-cent, Washington; five-cent, Jackson; six-cent, Lincoln; ten-cent, Jefferson; fifteen-cent, Webster; thirty-cent, Hamilton; ninety-cent, Perry. Designs of persons on stamps in honor of distinguished representative men of our country had been in use from their first introduction, particularly of Franklin and Washington.

POST-OFFICES OF COUNTY.—The following post-offices have been established in the county. They are arranged in the order of their priority.

No.	Name	Established
1.	Reading	March 20, 1793
2.	Hamburg	July 1, 1798
3.	Kutztown	July 1, 1805
4.	Morgantown	Jan. 1, 1806
5.	Womelsdorf	July 1, 1807
6.	Rehnersburg	May 27, 1818
7.	Longswamp	April 18, 1822
8.	Blandon	Nov. 2, 1825
9.	Klinesville	Dec. 16, 1825
10.	Bethel	Dec. 21, 1827
11.	Brower	Jan. 7, 1828
12.	Dale	Jan. 25, 1828
13.	Colebrookdale	Feb. 4, 1828
14.	Boyetown	Feb. 14, 1828
15.	Oley	March 14, 1828
16.	Brumfield	March 27, 1828
17.	Geiger's Mill	March 27, 1828
18.	New Jerusalem	May 26, 1828
19.	Douglassville	March 3, 1829
20.	Grimville	Jan. 14, 1830
21.	Shartlesville	Feb. 9, 1830
22.	Hereford	March 6, 1830
23.	Joanna Furnace	Dec. 29, 1830
24.	Sinking Spring	June 25, 1831
25.	Stouchsburg	March 22, 1832
26.	Bernville	Aug. 16, 1832
27.	Shoenakersville	Jan. 14, 1833
28.	Pikeville	March 12, 1834
29.	Pricetown	Feb. 6, 1835
30.	Lobachsville	April 10, 1835
31.	Paumtown	Dec. 21, 1835
32.	Mohrsville	May 10, 1836
33.	Gibraltar	June 16, 1836
34.	Tuckerton	Jan. 26, 1838
35.	Earlville	Aug. 2, 1838
36.	Moltown	Aug. 30, 1839
37.	Virginville	Aug. 30, 1839
38.	Lower Bern	June 12, 1841
39.	Albany	Dec. 23, 1845
40.	Moselem Springs	Jan. 14, 1846
41.	Stonersville	Jan. 18, 1847
42.	Monterey	May 19, 1847
43.	Straustown	Nov. 18, 1847
44.	Robesonia Furnace	Feb. 28, 1849
45.	Crosskill Mills	Oct. 16, 1849
46.	Siesholtzville	Nov. 8, 1849
47.	Tulpehocken	March 19, 1850
48.	Clayton	June 21, 1850
49.	Birdsboro	Jan. 6, 1851
50.	Leesport	Jan. 21, 1851
51.	Manatawny	March 19, 1851
52.	Spangsville	Sept. 19, 1851
53.	Fleetwood	Feb. 16, 1852
54.	Leinbach's	Feb. 16, 1852
55.	Beckersville	Feb. 18, 1852
56.	Host	April 22, 1852
57.	Bechtelsville	May 7, 1852
58.	Greshville	Feb. 10, 1853
59.	Dryville	May 3, 1853
60.	Wernersville	May 3, 1853
61.	Fredericksville	Aug. 20, 1853
62.	Landis' Store	Aug. 20, 1853
63.	Maxatawny	Nov. 5, 1853
64.	Mount Aetna	Oct. 2, 1854
65.	Lenhartsville	Dec. 11, 1854
66.	Gouglersville	July 16, 1855
67.	Monocacy	Jan. 29, 1856
68.	Knauer's	March 3, 1856
69.	Moselem	July 8, 1856
70.	South Evansville	July 8, 1856
71.	Windsor Castle	July 18, 1856
72.	Wintersville	July 10, 1857
73.	Temple	July 20, 1857
74.	Mohn's Store*	Nov. 6, 1857
75.	Mertztown	Dec. 8, 1857
76.	Cumru	March 6, 1858
77.	Kirbyville	Oct. 31, 1859
78.	Bower's Station	June 25, 1860
79.	Lyons Station	Oct. 25, 1860
80.	Topton	Aug. 29, 1861
81.	Exeter	Dec. 25, 1861
82.	Maiden Creek	April 18, 1862
83.	Eagle Point	Aug. 14, 1862
84.	Fritztown	Nov. 12, 1862
85.	Alsace	Feb. 12, 1863
86.	Upper Bern	Aug. 28, 1863
87.	Hill Church	May 27, 1864
88.	North Heidelberg	June 22, 1864
89.	Lower Heidelberg	July 1, 1864
90.	Krick's Mill	Sept. 11, 1865
91.	Hiester's Mill	Dec. 2, 1865
92.	Yellow House	May 9, 1866
93.	Mountain	Sept. 19, 1866
94.	Shanesville	May 2, 1867
95.	Centreport	June 11, 1868
96.	Stony Run	Jan. 11, 1869
97.	Scarlet Mill	Aug. 4, 1869
98.	Hummel's Store	Sept. 29, 1869
99.	Griesemersville	June 29, 1870
100.	Lime-Kiln	June 29, 1870
101.	Jacksonwald	Nov. 11, 1870
102.	Pine Iron Works	Feb. 24, 1871
103.	Little Oley	April 21, 1871
104.	Monocacy Station	May 13, 1872
105.	West Leesport	Sept. 30, 1872
106.	Huff's Church	March 2, 1874
107.	Trexler	Nov. 9, 1874
108.	East Berkley	March 12, 1875
109.	Bern	May 23, 1878
110.	Cacoosing	June 6, 1878
111.	Stony Creek Mills	May 20, 1879
112.	Meckville	Dec. 17, 1879
113.	Berks	Dec. 23, 1879
114.	Vinemont	April 19, 1880
115.	Garfield	June 25, 1880
116.	Kempton	May 17, 1881
117.	Barto	March 16, 1882
118.	Angelica	May 22, 1882
119.	Eckville	Sept. 8, 1882
120.	New Berlinville	Feb. 23, 1883
121.	Bally	Aug. 7, 1883
122.	Schweyers	April 14, 1884
123.	Shamrock Station	May 14, 1884
124.	Schubert	June 6, 1884

*Changed to Mohnton Aug. 9, 1906.

125. Shillington	July 14, 1884
126. Lorah	Dec. 5, 1884
127. Athol	Jan. 6, 1885
128. Walter's Park	March 3, 1885
129. Krumville	July 7, 1885
130. Calcium	July 7, 1885
131. Robesonia	Jan. 15, 1886
132. Schofer	Feb. 26, 1886
133. Obold	April 20, 1886
134. Eshbach	May 3, 1886
135. Dreibelbis	June 10, 1886
136. Scull Hill	Aug. 30, 1887
137. Dengler's*	Nov. 19, 1887
138. Hancock	March 3, 1888
139. Strause	Aug. 28, 1900
140. Greenawalt	March 20, 1903

RURAL FREE DELIVERY.—The following 58 rural free delivery routes were established in Berks county from 1900 until Dec. 1, 1908, the first having been established at Hamburg in the extreme northern part of the county, Sept. 1, 1900, and their arrangement being set forth in the order of priority:

Office	Routes	Established
Hamburg	2	Sept. 1, 1900
Reading	1	Oct. 1, 1901
Douglassville	4	Feb. 2, 1903
Fleetwood	1	July 1, 1903
Bechtelsville	2	July 1, 1903
Shoemakersville	1	July 1, 1903
Hamburg	2	Sept. 1, 1903
Boyetown	1	Oct. 15, 1903
Kutztown	1	April 1, 1904
Robesonia	2	April 1, 1904
Birdsboro	2	May 2, 1904
Sinking Spring	3	Sept. 1, 1904
Reading	1	Oct. 15, 1904
Geiger's Mills	1	Nov. 1, 1904
Blandon	1	Nov. 15, 1904
Fleetwood	1	Nov. 15, 1904
Leesport	1	Nov. 15, 1904
Shoemakersville	1	Nov. 15, 1904
Temple	1	Nov. 15, 1904
Mertztown	1	Dec. 1, 1904
Boyetown	1	Jan. 2, 1905
Stouchsburg	1	Jan. 16, 1905
Wernersville	2	Jan. 15, 1905
Kutztown	4	Feb. 1, 1905
Barto	2	Feb. 15, 1905
Mertztown	1	Feb. 15, 1905
West Leesport	1	Feb. 15, 1905
Oley	3	April 15, 1905
Bernville	1	May 1, 1905
Kempton	2	May 1, 1905
Mohnsville	1	May 15, 1905
Oley	1	May 15, 1905
Geiger's Mills	1	May 23, 1905
Mohrsville	1	Aug. 1, 1905
Bernville	1	Oct. 16, 1905
Mohnsville	1	Nov. 1, 1905
Virginville	1	Nov. 15, 1905
Bethel	1	Dec. 1, 1905
Stony Creek Mills	1	Nov. 1, 1906
Lenhartsville	1	April 16, 1907

The following fifty offices have been discontinued since 1900 as a direct result of introducing the rural free delivery:

POST-OFFICES DISCONTINUED

Office	Date
Alleghenyville	Oct. 31, 1905
Alliance	Oct. 13, 1905

* Changed to Mount Penn, December 11, 1903.

Angelica	May 31, 1905
Basket	May 31, 1905
Baumstown	April 30, 1904
Beckersville	Oct. 31, 1906
Brower	Jan. 31, 1903
Brumfieldville	Aug. 15, 1906
Cacoosing	Oct. 31, 1902
Cross-kill Mills	June 15, 1905
Dale	Dec. 14, 1903
Dreibelbis	Nov. 30, 1905
Eagle Point	March 31, 1904
East Berkley	April 30, 1908
Eshbach	Feb. 28, 1907
Freeman	June 15, 1905
Gablesville	Aug. 15, 1906
Garfield	Jan. 31, 1907
Gouglersville	Jan. 14, 1906
Greenawalt	April 29, 1905
Greshville	Aug. 15, 1906
Grill	Jan. 31, 1907
Harlem	Nov. 14, 1904
Huffs' Church	Oct. 31, 1906
Kirbyville	June 30, 1903
Knauer's	Oct. 31, 1905
Leinbach's	Jan. 31, 1907
Leshar	Jan. 15, 1906
Liscum	Feb. 15, 1905
Lobachsville	June 30, 1906
Lorah	Jan. 31, 1907
Lower Heidelberg	Jan. 31, 1907
Moselem	Dec. 14, 1907
Moselem Springs	May 31, 1908
North Heidelberg	Jan. 31, 1907
Oakbrook	Oct. 31, 1906
Obold	Oct. 15, 1907
Passmore	March 31, 1908
Pikeville	June 30, 1906
Pricetown	June 30, 1905
Schubert	Nov. 30, 1905
Schweyers	Nov. 30, 1904
Scull Hill	Oct. 14, 1905
South Evansville	Jan. 31, 1907
Stonetown	April 1, 1904
Straustown	April 30, 1907
Tuckerton	June 15, 1905
Upper Bern	Sept. 29, 1906
Windsor Castle	May 31, 1906
Wintersville	Jan. 14, 1905

MAIL OF DISCONTINUED OFFICES

The mail formerly addressed to the following discontinued post-offices, is sent as follows:

Alsace mail to	Oley
Angelica mail to	Mohnton
Baumstown mail to	Birdsboro
Beckersville mail to	Geiger's Mills
Brower mail to	Douglassville
Brumfieldville mail to	Douglassville
Cacoosing mail to	Sinking Spring
Colebrookdale mail to	Pottstown
Crosskill Mills mail to	Myerstown
Cumru mail to	Shillington
Dale mail to	Barto
Eagle Point mail to	Kutztown
East Berkley mail to	Blandon
Eckville mail to	Albany
Exeter mail to	Lorane
Garfield mail to	Bernville
Gouglersville mail to	Reinholds
Greshville mail to	Boyetown
Heidelberg Lower mail to	Wernersville
Heidelberg North mail to	Robesonia
Hiester's Mill mail to	Robesonia
Kirbyville mail to	Fleetwood



Knauer's mail to	Mohnton
Lembach's mail to	Reading R. F. D. No. 2
Lobachsville mail to	Oley
Longswamp mail to	Mertztown
Lorah mail to	Sinking Spring
Lower Bern mail to	Robeson
Obold mail to	Robeson
Pikeville mail to	Oley
Pricetown mail to	Fleetwood
Schweyers mail to	Mertztown
Siesholtville mail to	Alburtis
South Evansville mail to	West Leesport
Stonetown mail to	Birdsboro
Strause mail to	West Leesport
Tuckerton mail to	Reading R. F. D. No. 2
Upper Bern mail to	Hamburg
Windsor Castle mail to	Hamburg
Wintersville mail to	Richland

OFFICES IN COUNTY

The following offices were in Berks county in January, 1909. The figures after post-offices denote number of rural free delivery routes running from that office.

Albany	Maxatawny
Athol	Meckville
Bally	Mertztown—2
Barto—2	Mohnton—2
Buchtelville—12	Mohrsville—1
Berks	Molltown
Berne	Monocacy
Bernharts	Monocacy Station
Bernville—2	Montello
Bethel—1	Monterey
Birdsboro—2	Morgantown
Blandon—1	Mount Aetna
Bowers Station	Mountain
Bovertown	Mountain Sunset
Calcium	Mount Penn
Centreport	New Berlinville
Chapel	New Jerusalem
Clayton	Oley—4
Dauberville	Pine Iron Works
Douglassville—4	Plowville
Dryville	Reading—2
Earlville	Rehrersburg
Esterly	Robeson—2
Fleetwood—2	Ryeland
Frederickville	Scarletts Mill
Fritztown	Schofer
Geiger's Mills—3	Siesholtville
Gibraltar	Shamrock Station
Griesemersville	Shanesville
Grimville	Shartlesville
Hamburg—4	Shillington
Hancock	Shoemakersville—2
Hereford	Sinking Spring—3
Hill Church	Spangville
Host	Stonersville
Hummel's Store	Stony Creek Mills—1
Jacksonwald	Stony Run
Joanna	Stouchsburg—1
Kempton—2	Straustown
Klinesville	Temple—1
Krick's Mill	Topton
Krumsville	Trexler
Kutztown	Vinemont
Landis Store	Virginville—1
Leesport—1	Walter's Park
Lenhartsville	Wernersville—2
Limekiln	West Leesport—1
Little Oley	West Reading
Lorane	Womelsdorf
Lyons Station	Wyomissing
Maiden-creek	Yellow House
Manatawny	

TELEGRAPH

In 1844, the telegraph was successfully introduced for the transmission of messages by electricity. The first message was sent through a wire elevated on poles between Washington and Baltimore, May 27, 1844. Congress had (in March previously) appropriated \$30,000 to Prof. Morse for experiments with his instrument, to demonstrate the practicability of his invention.

P. R. & P. T. Co.—A company was incorporated under the name of Philadelphia, Reading & Pottsville Telegraph Company, by an Act passed March 15, 1847, for the purpose of making, using and maintaining telegraph lines between Philadelphia, Reading and Pottsville, and commissioners were appointed to effect its organization. This company was organized in April, and the telegraph line was successfully established shortly afterward. Communication was completed between Philadelphia and Reading on May 10, 1847; and the first message forwarded to Reading related to the Mexican war. The line has been maintained successfully ever since.

Upon the construction and operation of the several railroads running from Reading, telegraph lines were extended to Harrisburg, Allentown, Columbia, Lancaster, Slatington, and Wilmington.

WESTERN UNION.—The American Telegraph Company introduced a line of telegraph here in 1863; and, in 1865, the Western Union Telegraph Company. These two then formed a union; and the lines have been operated since under the latter name. In 1879, this company and the Philadelphia, Reading & Pottsville Telegraph Company effected an arrangement for co-operation; since then they have conducted their lines together.

LEHIGH.—The Lehigh Telegraph Company was organized at Allentown, and opened an office at Reading in September, 1880. It formed a connection with the principal cities in the United States through the American Union Telegraph Company, but this connection was continued only for a year and a half, when it was changed to the "Mutual Union" for an equal period, and it was operated under this name till January, 1884, when its lines, etc., were transferred to the Bankers' & Merchants' Telegraph Company. This company has been operating the lines under the name of the United Lines Telegraph Company, by which it is known throughout the country. At Reading it is known as the "Postal."

TELEPHONE

PENNSYLVANIA.—The telephone was introduced at Reading by Henry W. Spang, in October, 1879. He organized a system of communication in the city and carried it on successfully until November, 1880, when he formed a stock company for maintaining lines and exchanges in Berks, Montgomery, Schuylkill and Lebanon counties, under the name

of East Pennsylvania Telephone Company. This company then extended the system, making connection with Pottstown, Pottsville, and Lebanon; set up an increased number of instruments, and operated it successfully until Jan 1, 1883, when the entire business, including wires and instruments, was transferred to the Pennsylvania Telephone Company, a similar organization, which had extended its lines to Lebanon from Harrisburg. The latter company has since conducted the business very successfully. The extent of its system in the county until March, 1909, is shown in the following particulars:

Miles of wire in county, 7,720 (of which 6,200 are in Reading).

Instruments in county, 3,776 (of which 3,332 are in Reading).

Operators, 45; employees, 115.

Estimated daily calls, 25,000.

CONSOLIDATED.—The Consolidated Telephone Companies of Pennsylvania was organized under the laws of Pennsylvania in August, 1901, and by June, 1902, the plant was established in Berks county with a "central exchange" at Reading. In February, 1909, lines radiated from the exchange for a distance of forty miles from Reading, touching all the small towns and villages in the county; and the toll system had connections covering a radius of several hundred miles to all points in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and West Virginia, and also to many points in New York and Ohio. The subscribers in Berks county numbered 3,200.

In the system at Reading, there were then 1,161 miles of wire; underground in multiple duct conduits, more especially in the central parts of the city, $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

OIL PIPE LINES

The National Transit Company constructed a pipe line, for the purpose of conveying petroleum, in the fall of 1897 from Millway, in Lancaster county, through the lower end of Berks county by way of Maple-Grove school-house, White-Bear Station, Douglassville Station, and Maxatawny Station, to a place called Centre Bridge on the east bank of the Delaware river in Bucks county, fifteen miles north of Trenton. The line was constructed from the oil fields of northern Pennsylvania, which connected with lines conveying oil from West Virginia.

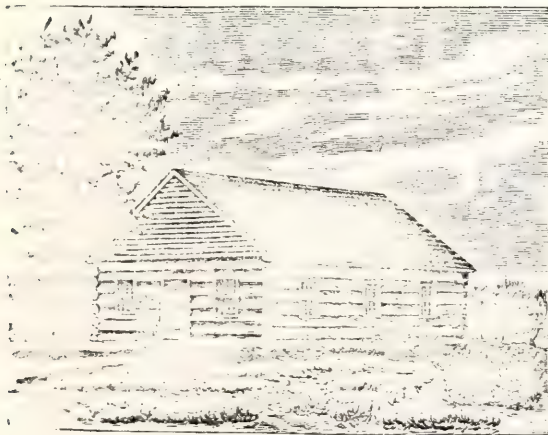
In the fall of 1908 a similar line was constructed by A. C. Bedford across the central section of Berks county from the pumping station near Myers-town to a pumping station located at Barto, near the railroad station, private persons purchasing the right of way presumably in behalf of the Standard Oil Company. The capacity of this line is about 20,000 gallons a day. It is a continuation of the line from the oil fields in Illinois, which enters Pennsylvania near Negley, in Ohio, and passes a point south of Altoona and Duncannon to Myerstown, and from Barto by way of Quakertown to Centre Bridge; from which point it is pumped by way of other pipe lines to the seaboard, where it is refined.

CHAPTER III—EDUCATION IN COUNTY

RELIGION

The spirit of religion was manifested by the first inhabitants from the very beginning of their settlements in this section of Pennsylvania. They did not erect churches immediately because they were obliged to look after the erection of homes for themselves and barns for their stock and products, and to get the soil in proper condition for cultivation. Naturally, this required some years and until they secured churches of their own, they traveled long distances toward Philadelphia for the purpose of attending worship. Funerals were necessarily conducted in their homes, and burials were made in small lots of ground set apart in the far corner of an adjoining field.

By studying the time of the erection of the churches in the several sections of the county, it is apparent that the subject of religion occupied a great deal of public attention, and that the feeling was general. Members of the Lutheran denomination erected the first church in the county, a small church in the southerly end of Amity township near the Schuylkill river, about 1703, having been Swedes; and members of the Friends' Society established the next church, locating it in the extreme upper end of the township, about 1725.



FIRST CHURCH IN COUNTY

The territory lying between the South Mountain and North (or Blue) Mountain ranges was not yet released by the Indians. Nevertheless, the settlers in the Tulpehocken section, being Lutherans from the Palatinate, established a church along the Tulpehocken creek at the western end of the main thoroughfare. This was also about 1725. Accordingly, three churches were established in this part of the Province until 1725.

During the next twenty-five years, thirty-five additional churches were established by different denominations. So that by the time the county was erected, in 1752, there were altogether thirty-eight churches within its borders, south of the Blue Mountain. There was also one beyond the mountain (the "Red Church"), settlers having ventured into that region of territory. Their distribution in the several sections was as follows:

Sections	Lutheran	Reformed	L. and R. (Union)	Friends	Baptist	Dunkard	Episcopal	Moravian	Roman Catholic	Methodist
Manatawny	4	2	2	2		1			1	1
Ontelaunee	3	1	4	1					1	
Tulpehocken	4	4	1	1		2		2		
Schuylkill				1	2		1			
	9	5	8	5	2	3	1	3	1	1

This table reveals the fact that the religious influence in this large area of territory, about thirty miles square, was mostly directed by the Lutheran and Reformed denominations; and this was so in all the sections in about the same proportions excepting the Schuylkill section, where there was no Lutheran nor Reformed congregation at all until 1765. This controlling influence has been continued throughout the county from that time until now, not only in the country districts but also in the city of Reading and the boroughs.

In the next twenty-five years, until the Revolution broke out in 1775, fifteen additional churches were established as follows:

East of the Schuylkill river, 2 Lutheran, 4 Reformed, 4 Union, and 1 Episcopal (at Reading); and west of the river, 1 Lutheran and 3 Union.

The Molatton Lutheran Church in Amity had become Episcopal in 1765.

At that time, there were in the county 53 churches.

DENOMINATIONS DESCRIBED

LUTHERAN.—Immediately after Penn had arrived in Pennsylvania, a number of Germans immigrated to the province and among them there were Lutherans. The tide of their immigration began in earnest in 1710. Then about three thousand immigrants, chiefly Lutherans, settled in New York, having been encouraged to do so by Queen Anne, after leaving the Palatinate on account of religious intolerance, and arriving in England. In 1713, one hundred and fifty families settled in Schoharie, New York, some of which ten years afterward came to Tulpehocken, Pennsylvania. In 1727, a large number of them came into Pennsylvania from various

parts of Germany, chiefly from the Palatinate; and it is believed that many of these settled in this section of territory, along the Manatawny and Tulpehocken creeks.

The Lutheran religion existed in the county, both with the Swedes and Germans to the east of the Schuylkill and also with the Germans to the west. Many of the Germans were adherents of the Reformed religion. The churches built by these denominations were mostly "union" churches. In nearly every instance the members of the two denominations united in bearing the cost jointly,—having appointed separate committees to co-operate in conducting the building operations. And the church services alternated every two Sundays.

The harmony between these denominations in such a peculiar and jealous matter as religion displayed the singular excellence and liberality of the Germans. These people were alike in general affairs, dress, speech, labor, manners and customs; and a difference in their religious notions did not develop any antagonism between them. Indeed, the one denomination frequently visited the church services of the other denomination.

The earliest Lutheran ministers who preached in this territory before the Revolution were Gerhart Henckel, — Van Dueren, Casper Stoever, Casper Leutbecker, J. Philip Meurer, Gottlob Buettner, Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg, John Nicholas Kurtz, Tobias Wagner, Valentine Kraft, Peter Mishler, Emanuel Schulze and Frederick A. C. Muhlenberg.

Rev. Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg is generally regarded as the father of the Lutheran Church in America in respect to making it an organized religious body. He was stationed at the Trappe in 1742, whence he visited different Lutheran organizations as far north as the Blue Mountain, and as far west as the Tulpehocken settlement. During his ministerial journeys he made the acquaintance of Conrad Weiser and shortly afterward, 1743, married his daughter, Maria.

REFORMED.—As mentioned in the previous section, persons attached to the Reformed faith were also amongst the early settlers, but they were known as "German Calvinists," or "Dutch Reformed." Their first churches were in Oley, in Greenwich, and in Heidelberg. In meeting-houses, however, they were mostly connected with the Lutherans. The early Reformed ministers in Pennsylvania were assisted by the church in Holland. In 1741, a number of German Bibles (1,300) were sent here for their use. In 1746, Rev. Michael Schlatter, the great Reformed missionary from Switzerland, arrived, and he preached in Oley and Tulpehocken.

The active ministers of the Reformed congregations in the several sections of the county before 1800 were the following:

Samuel Guldin
John Philip Boehm
Geo. Michl Weis
John Peter Miller

John Henry Helffrich
J. Wm. Hendel, Sr.
William Otterbein
Philip J. Michael

Michael Schlatter
William H. Stoy
John Waldschmidt
Thomas H. Leinbach
John C. Guldin
John Zuilch
John J. Zufall
Andrew J. Loretz

Daniel Wagner
F. J. Berger
John W. Boos
J. Conrad Bucher
L. F. Herman
Chas. G. Herman
Philip Pauli

Those in the county about 1840 were:

J. Conrad Bucher
Thos. H. Leinbach
Chas. G. Herman
L. C. Herman
A. L. Herman
J. Sassaman Herman
William Hendel

Augustus Pauli
William Pauli
Isaac Miesse
David Bossler
David Hassinger
Philip Moyer
Chas. Schultz

FRIENDS.—The Friends were the third sect of people who settled in the county. They erected a meeting-house in 1725 near the Monocacy creek, along the western line of the Swedes' settlement, then known as Amity township. Within the next score of years, they erected two more meeting-houses, one in Maiden-creek township and the other in Robeson township. They built a fourth at Reading, supposed to have been in 1751, three years after the town had been laid out and just as the building improvements began to be active. They were most active about that time when the county was erected and for fifty years afterward. They then exerted the most political influence in the county through the recognition of the proprietaries of the government, who were also Friends. And their religious influence was large and wide in the several localities mentioned. But they remained where they first settled. They did not extend beyond Oley and Exeter along the Manatawny and Monocacy creeks, Maiden-creek and Richmond along the Ontelaunee, and Robeson along the Hay and Allegheny creeks. And yet their families were numerous and their population was considerable. In this time it was estimated that they numbered about two thousand. Their moral principles were superior and their habits and customs admirable. Simple, unostentatious, earnest and clever, with good education and large means, they occupied a position which was eminently respectable, and this they maintained for many years after they had lost control of political power.

BAPTIST.—The first Baptist church in Pennsylvania was established in 1688 at Pennypack (now called Lower Dublin). In 1738, a number of Baptists removed from Chester and Philadelphia counties and settled near the banks of the Tulpehocken creek, founding the Tulpehocken Baptist church, and Thomas Jones was ordained the pastor. The congregation had two meeting-houses. The first was built in 1740 on a lot of three acres, the gift of Hugh Morris, Evan Lloyd and Evan Price, in the township of Cumru, on the Wyomissing creek, about two miles from its outlet in the Schuylkill. The building was only 26 by 16 feet.

Another building of the same size, about three miles west from the first, was built the same year

on a lot of one acre, the gift of Thomas Bartholomew and Hannaniah Pugh. This was at a point on the "Old Tulpehocken Road," now "Sinking Spring." The building is still standing but converted into a dwelling. It is built of brick, octagonal in shape. A graveyard lies at the rear, with a number of graves marked by headstones, now illegible.

The church (with Mr. Jones as pastor) reported annually until 1774, when its name disappears from the records of the Baptist Association, the pastor about that time having removed to Chester county. From that time until now, no church organization of this denomination has been in the county outside of Reading.

DUNKARD.—A religious denomination known as the "Dunkards" existed at an early day in the county. It was also called "The Brethren" and sometimes "German Baptists." Certain persons of this denomination emigrated from Germany in 1719. In 1724, they held a large general convention in this district. Another convention was held in Oley in 1742, which was attended by "four priests of the congregation at Ephrata."

A meeting-house of this denomination was erected in Ruscombmanor (at Pricetown), and another in Bethel (north of Millersburg), before 1752. The Dunkards were numerous in Oley from 1730 to 1745.

Another congregation was formed in the north-western section of the county, and comprised settlers in Bethel and Tulpehocken townships. They erected a church in the former township, along a branch of the Little Swatara creek, about the year 1745.

There was also a third congregation in Bern and Upper Tulpehocken townships, along the Northkill, several miles above the confluence of this stream with the Tulpehocken. A church was erected in 1748. In 1750 Elder George Klein came from New Jersey and settled amongst the members. Through his energy the congregation flourished for twenty years. Then settlements in the western part of the State influenced most of the members to move away. This left the congregation without sufficient support, and it naturally ceased to exist.

MORAVIAN.—The Moravians were among the early settlers of the county. This peculiar sect was represented here by Count Zinzendorf, who came to Pennsylvania in 1741. In 1742, he conducted a synod in Oley; and afterward visited the inhabitants of Tulpehocken. Shortly after this visit, a congregation of Moravians was organized in Bethel township. Between 1742 and 1750 two churches were erected in Heidelberg, and one in Oley.

In September, 1742, Count Zinzendorf visited Shamokin, accompanied by Conrad Weiser, and they co-operated with the Moravians for several years. Tobias Beckel and George Beckel, brothers, from Turkheim, in Rhenish-Bavaria, immigrated to Pennsylvania in the fall of 1736 and settled in this part of the province, the former in Heidelberg

township, south of Tulpehocken creek, and the latter in Bern township, along the Schuylkill river. They organized small congregations and preached to them. Several years afterward, George Beckel removed to the northern portion of Heidelberg and there carried on his ministrations in a church which was erected on land donated by his brother.

Andrew Aschenbach was one of the pioneers of the Moravians in this vicinity. He settled in Oley in 1740, and preached for two years with great success. Zinzendorf was deeply interested in this congregation and devoted much time to its affairs. Some years afterward disagreements arose between Aschenbach and the members, and these continued until the Moravians lost all their influence; and by 1765 the church was abandoned.

AMISH.—The Amish denomination is a branch of the Mennonites. The first bishop in this vicinity (comprising Berks, Chester and Lancaster counties) was Jacob Mast, who settled here in 1750, when a boy about twelve years old, and began to exhort and preach about 1765. He continued in active and faithful service for many years. The second bishop was Peter Plank, who moved from Oley and settled in Caernarvon. And the third was John P. Mast, who officiated as a faithful and devoted minister for nearly fifty years. His father, Daniel Mast, had been a minister from 1830 till 1883.

At one time there were three other congregations in the county—one in Cumru, one in Maiden-creek and the third in Bern township (called Northkill).

ROMAN CATHOLIC.—The early settlers of the county until 1740, were entirely Protestants. Then the Roman Catholics appeared. Their number was very small compared with the number of the other denominations. The Protestants having been driven here by religious persecution, caused by the Roman Catholic religion, and feeling the terrors of this persecution, it was natural for them to discourage this religion from obtaining a foothold in their midst; which accounts for the strength of the one class and the weakness of the other. In 1741 the Roman Catholics had a congregation and meeting-house in the extreme eastern part of the county (now included in Washington township) and a congregation in Maxatawny.

Some years afterward, it would seem that their number had grown so as to awaken public concern. The matter was forced upon the attention of the justices of the county, who (being Protestants) imbibed the feeling of insecurity entertained by the surrounding communities. The excitement incident to the "French and Indian war" was sufficient to arouse their jealousy and suspicion, and it was believed that the Roman Catholics manifested sympathy for the French in their cruel warfare against the Colonies. The justices of the county therefore addressed a letter on the subject to the Governor of the province on July 23, 1755, but nothing was done.

In 1757, the Roman Catholics of the province were enumerated with a total of 1,365; in Berks

county 205, in two congregations. Under Rev. Theo. Schneider, 62 men and 55 women; under Rev. Ferdinand Farmer, 46 men and 42 women (among whom there were eight Irish people).

At Reading, they had an association soon after the town was laid out; and this association was maintained, notwithstanding the smallness of their number and the opposition of the Lutheran and Reformed people. About 1760, they succeeded in establishing a small log church at Reading.

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL.—Three churches of this denomination came to figure prominently in the religious history of the county. The first was the St. Thomas near Morgantown, in Caernarvon township, which was established on ground devised by Thomas Morgan about 1740. It was removed in 1792 to the town, where a lot was set apart by Jacob Morgan for that purpose. Several years before, the congregation had secured the first regular rector, Rev. Levi Bull. A substantial building was erected in its stead in 1824.

The second church was the St. Gabriel's, which was established at Molatton (now Douglassville) in Amity township in 1765, and Rev. Alexander Murray was the rector. A larger building was erected in its stead in 1801, which is still standing. And a third was erected near by in 1880-84.

And the third church was the St. Mary's (afterward Christ's) at Reading. The congregation was organized by Rev. Alexander Murray about 1763, and the services were held in the same dwelling-house which had been secured for holding the sessions of the county courts. No church was erected until 1825.

EVANGELICAL.—The only other religious denomination which established itself in the county outside of Reading to any considerable extent was the Evangelical Association, but not until nearly one hundred years after the county had been erected. The first congregation was organized by Rev. Joseph M. Saylor at Reading in 1844. Within the next ten years, others were organized in different parts of the county, and the Association persevered until it came to possess churches in most of the districts. But the buildings were small, especially outside of Reading, and the membership was limited. Their Christian zeal was strong and their purpose very determined and commendable.

This sect was started by Jacob Albright in 1800, after he had preached several years, and the first tangible results of his religious work were made to appear in the eastern part of Berks county, near the Colebrookdale Iron Works. In that vicinity, he had preached in the homes of Samuel Lieser, Joseph Buckwalter and Abraham Buckwalter, and the second class of the organized body had come to be formed out of the members of the families of the three persons named, with Mr. Lieser as the class-leader. In a similar manner, the work was extended throughout the State. But though the real work was started in the country, the churches of the As-

sociation were not erected there first, for the first one in the county was not established until 1844, at Reading.

About 1870 a spirit of opposition began to manifest itself in relation to church government and this increased until 1890, when the Association separated into two great parties with about 60,000 adherents on each side, called respectively the Dubsites and Esherites. After litigating for four years, the Esherites were sustained by the courts in this State and others, and they therefore retained all the churches and the name Evangelical Association. The Dubsites adopted the name United Evangelical and immediately began the erection of churches for themselves. In 1905, the Evangelical Association had 5 churches in Reading and 15 in the townships, and the United Evangelical, 4 in Reading, 8 in the boroughs, and 11 in the townships; and both together 43. Active work in some of the churches in the country districts has been suspended, either partially or entirely.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS.—Other denominations than those mentioned were not organized in the county until after 1825. Their names and the time of organization will be found in the several districts where established, more especially at Reading. It is surprising that only the Evangelicals should gain any foothold worth mentioning outside of Reading.

PASTORS LONG IN SERVICE.—Some of the pastors have served their congregations for many years in succession, until 1909, indicating their fidelity and devotion to a remarkable degree. Those most notable in this respect at Reading are the following:

Christian S. Haman, United Evangelical	54 years
John J. Kuendig, Lutheran	50 years
T. Calvin Leimbach, Reformed	49 years
Benjamin Bausman, Reformed	46 years
George Bornemann, Roman Catholic	44 years
Samuel A. Leimbach, Reformed	42 years
John J. Cressman, Lutheran	41 years
Daniel D. Trexler, Lutheran	41 years
Zenas H. Gable, Lutheran	41 years
Franklin K. Huntzinger, Lutheran	40 years
Richard S. Appel, Reformed	38 years
Ferdinand F. Buermeyer, Lutheran	38 years
Jeremiah K. Fehr, Evangelical	38 years
Edward T. Horn, Lutheran	37 years
William P. Orrick, Protestant Episcopal	36 years
Sylvanus C. Breyfogel, Evangelical	36 years
William H. Weidner, Evangelical	36 years
I. J. Reitz, United Evangelical	35 years
Mahlon H. Mishler, Reformed	33 years
Isaac S. Stahr, Reformed	32 years
A. M. Sappal, United Evangelical	32 years
William H. Myers, Lutheran	31 years
Levi D. Stambaugh, Reformed	30 years
William J. Kerschner, Reformed	28 years
George S. Seaman, Lutheran	27 years
Franklin K. Bernd, Lutheran	26 years
George W. Gerhard, Reformed	26 years

LUTHERAN AND REFORMED CHURCHES.—The Lutheran and Reformed churches have been grouped together. At Reading, they have been tabulated separately, but in the boroughs and townships they have been run together, and they can be distinguished by the letters placed after them, re-

spectively; L. standing for Lutheran, R. for Reformed, and U. for Union. They number altogether, including chapels, 134: Lutheran, 37, Reformed, 26, and Union, 71.

By comparing the tables it will be observed that the distribution of these churches in the several sections is alike to a remarkable degree; and this fact is particularly noteworthy when we consider that the distribution covers an area of nine hundred square miles. They have evidently been carrying on a friendly rivalry, or rather co-operation, for nearly two hundred years, which is truly commendable. And they have covered this large area so thoroughly that the other denominations secured only a limited foothold in several of the districts outside of Reading.

DENOMINATIONS IN COUNTY

The following religious denominations were in Berks county in 1909, and the statement exhibits the number of the respective churches and the membership as nearly as could be ascertained. Other information relating to them will be found in the chapter on Reading, on the Boroughs, and on the Townships, under the topic of religion.

Denomination	Number	Members
Lutheran	92	29,154
Reformed	56	23,931
Protestant Episcopal	7	1,213
Roman Catholic	5	7,600
Presbyterian	3	835
Methodist Episcopal	11	2,389
Baptist	7	451
Evangelical	18	1,461
United Evangelical	23	3,430
United Brethren	5	1,107
German Baptist Brethren	3	
Mennonite	4	296
Schwenkfelder	1	
Church of God	1	

CHURCHES IN TOWNSHIPS

The following statement embraces the churches situated in the several sections of Berks county. The churches at Reading and the boroughs will be found in the chapters relating to these divisions of the county.

The figures which appear after the names of the churches in the following tabulated statements indicate the time of institution or erection, and of rebuilding or improvement. The name of the pastor serving in 1909 has been placed after the respective churches.

LUTHERAN AND REFORMED CHURCHES IN MANATAWNY (S. E.) SECTION

(L. indicating Lutheran; R., Reformed; and U., Union,
both using the church, alternately)

Alsace:		
Zion's (Spies's) (U.), 1784-1810-'87.....	M. L. Herbein (R.), 256	
Salem (Shalter's) (U.) 1860	E. S. Brownmiller (L.), 400	
	(vacant) (L.),	
	M. L. Herbein (R.), 136	
Alsace, Lower:		
Bethany Chapel (U.), 1896	W. O. Laub, (L.), 238	
Amity:		
St. Paul's (Amityville) (U.), 1753-'95-1873		
	Geo. W. Roth (R.), 247	
	A. W. Lindenmuth (L.), 425	
Weavertown Chapel (U.), 1879		
Monocacy Chapel (U.), 1895		

Douglas:

Glendale Chapel (U.), 1893

Exeter:

Schwartzwald (U.), 1747-1810-'70... Joseph R. Brown (R.), 631
W. O. Laub (L.), 435

Baumtown Chapel (U.)

Lorane Chapel (U.)

St. Lawrence Chapel (U.)

Stonersville Chapel (U.)

Hereford:

Huff's (U.), 1814-'61..... O. R. Frantz (R.), 277
William F. Bond (L.), 695

Herefordville Chapel (U.) 1899

Muhlenberg:

Alsace (North Reading), 1740-'96-1850-1908..... Charles E. Kistler (L.), 800
(Reformed also there from 1796 to 1908)

Grace (R.), 1908..... Elam J. Snyder, 808

Linnshitz (U.), 1850-'82..... Geo. W. Gerhard (R.), 336
G. S. Seaman (L.), 368

Oley:

Oley (R.), 1735-1822-'80..... Isaac S. Stahr, 396

(Lutheran also there from 1735 to 1812)

Christ's (L.), 1821-78-'85..... E. S. Brownmiller, 270

Friedens (U.), Friedensburg, 1830-'86..... Isaac S. Stahr (R.), 300

St. John's (L.), Pleasantville, 1879..... A. W. Lindenmuth (L.), 340

Oley Line Chapel (U.), 1897

Pike:

St. Joseph's (Hill) (U.), 1747-'80-1853..... M. H. Mishler (R.), 350
H. W. Warmkessel (L.), 768

(Lutheran also from 1747 to 1786)

St. Paul's (U.), Lohachsville, 1814-'71..... (vacant) (R.),

H. W. Warmkessel (L.), 177

Rockland:

Christ (Dryville) (L.), 1735-'64-'97-1879..... J. O. Henry, 400

New Jerusalem (U.), 1840..... Isaac S. Stahr (R.), 90

William F. Bond (L.), 349

Ruscombmanor:

St. John's (U.), 1840-1902..... Isaac S. Stahr (R.), 76
A. W. Lindenmuth (L.), 55

LUTHERAN AND REFORMED CHURCHES IN ONTELAUNEE (N. E.) SECTION

Albany:

Jerusalem (Red) (U.), 1742-1812..... A. O. Robert (L.), 220

(Lutheran until 1-12)

New Bethel (Eck) (U.), 1750-1834..... O. S. Scheirer (L.), 170

Frieden's (White) (U.), Weensville, 1770-1840.....

O. S. Scheirer (L.), 240

J. S. Bartholomew (R.)

Greenwich:

New Jerusalem (Dunkel's) (U.), 1744-'90-1850.....

J. S. Bartholomew (R.), 200

O. S. Scheirer (L.), 210

(Reformed until 1790)

Bethel Zions (U.), 1761-1803-'81..... R. S. Appel (R.),

O. S. Scheirer (L.), 325

(Lutheran also until 1844)

Longswamp:

Longswamp (U.), 1748-'90-1852..... Wm. L. Meckstroth (R.), 335

(Reformed until 1837)

St. Paul's (U.), Mertztown, 1837..... M. H. Brensinger (R.), 85

F. K. Bernd (L.), 321

Maiden-creek:

Blandon (U.), 1860..... M. H. Brensinger (R.), 166

J. O. Henry (L.), 365

Manatawny:

Trinity (Power's) (L.), 1859-1901..... W. F. Bond, 132

DeLong's (Power's) (R.), 1750-1871-1901..... G. B. Smith

(Lutherans used it from 1859 to 1900)

Zion's (Siegfried's) (U.), 1828-'90..... F. K. Bernd (L.), 236

G. B. Smith (R.)

St. Paul's (Lyon's) (L.), 1865..... J. M. Ditzler

Lyon's Chapel (U.)

Ontelaunee:

St. John's (Gernant's) (U.), 1794-1868..... D. E. Schaeffer (R.), 297

G. S. Seaman (L.), 361

Trinity (Leesport) (U.), 1867-'75-'81..... D. E. Schaeffer (R.), 239

G. S. Seaman (L.), 157

Perry:

Zion's (Ziegel's) (U.), 1761-1804-'60.....

J. S. Bartholomew (R.), 350

St. Luke's (U.), Shoemakersville, 1833-1901..... H. C. Kline (L.), 340

D. E. Schaeffer (R.), 136

D. G. Gerberich (L.), 145

St. Timothy's (U.), Mohrsville, 1864..... D. E. Schaeffer (R.), 24

J. M. Ditzler (L.)

Richmond:

Zion's (Moselem) (L.), 1734-'61-1894..... R. B. Linch, 195

St. Peter's (R.), 1762-1800..... E. H. Leimbach, 122

St. Peter's (Becker's) (U.), 1866-'91..... R. S. Appel (R.), 130

F. K. Bernd (L.), 194

St. Paul's Chapel (U.)

Windsor:

St. Paul's (U.), 1756-'63-1832-'92..... J. S. Bartholomew (R.), 50

H. C. Kline (L.), 113

(Lutheran until 1832)



LUTHERAN AND REFORMED CHURCHES IN
TULPEHOCKEN (N. W.) SECTION

Bern:	
Bern (U.), 1740-'62-1837.....	M. L. Herbein (R.), 264
	E. S. Brownmiller (L.), 360
(Reformed until 1837)	
Epler's (U.), 1734-'88-1851.....	George W. Gerhard (R.), 327
	G. S. Seaman (L.), 180
(Reformed until 1825)	
Bern, Upper:	
Frieden's (U.), Shartlesville, 1871-1905.....	R. S. Appel (R.), 83
	D. D. Trexler (L.), 185
Bethel:	
Salem (R.), Millersburg, 1810-'56-'92.....	C. A. Butz (R.), 210
	D. D. Trexler (L.), 125
(Lutheran by permission since 1850)	
Centre:	
Belleman's (U.), 1746-1813-'46.....	M. H. Mishler (R.), 350
	D. G. Gerberich (L.), 380
Heidelberg:	
St. Daniel's (Corner) (L.), 1750-1814.....	O. E. Pfueger, 777
Robeson (R.), 1905.....	E. S. Leinbach, 240
Heidelberg, Lower:	
Hain's (R.), 1735-'66-1878.....	W. J. Kerschner, 607
Trinity (Wernersville) (L.), 1897.....	J. W. Lazarus, 91
Wernersville Chapel (R.), 1901	
Heidelberg, North:	
North Heidelberg (U.), 1744-1816.....	E. S. Leinbach (R.), 125
	(vacant) (L.)
(Originally Moravian until 1835)	
Jefferson:	
Christ (U.), Little Tulpehocken, 1733-1809.....	
	E. S. Leinbach (R.), 50
	(vacant) (L.)
St. Paul's (U.), Schaefferstown, 1875-'84.....	
	L. D. Stambaugh (R.), 45
	(vacant) (L.), 75
Marion:	
Zion's (L.), 1725-'45-1837-'95.....	E. S. Brownmiller, 75
Christ (L.), 1743-'86-1885-'88.....	(vacant), 325
St. Peter's Chapel (U.), 1849	
Tilden:	
St. Michael's (U.), 1769-1810-'75.....	S. A. Leinbach (R.), 375
	D. G. Gerberich (L.), 670
Tulpehocken:	
Host (U.), 1738-1885.....	E. S. Leinbach (R.), 450
	O. E. Pfueger (L.), 243
(Reformed until 1858)	
Rehrersburg (L.), 1757-1808-'82.....	(vacant), 375
St. John's (U.), 1847-'97.....	L. D. Stambaugh (R.), 135
	D. D. Trexler (L.), 90
St. John's (U.), Mt. Aetna.....	L. D. Stambaugh (R.), 170
	O. E. Pfueger (L.)
Tulpehocken, Upper:	
Zion's (U.), 1734-1819-1905.....	E. S. Leinbach (R.), 250
	O. E. Pfueger (L.), 441
St. Paul's (L.), 1861.....	(vacant)

LUTHERAN AND REFORMED CHURCHES IN
SCHUYLKILL (S. W.) SECTION

Brecknock:	
Allegheny (U.), 1765-1800-'78.....	J. V. George (R.), 201
	Z. H. Gable (L.), 350
Cumru:	
Yocom's (U.), 1822-'34.....	W. J. Kerschner (R.), 81
	W. O. Laub (L.), 359
Wyomissing (R.), 1850-'86.....	J. V. George, 219
Gouglersville (L.), 1894.....	Z. H. Gable, 300
Redeemer (Oakbrook) (L.), 1903.....	F. F. Buermyer, 21
Robeson:	
Plow (U.), 1764-1811-'69.....	J. V. George (R.), 54
	Z. H. Gable (L.), 350
(Lutheran until 1811)	
St. John's (U.), Gibraltar.....	J. V. George (R.), 80
	Z. H. Gable (L.), 320
Frieden's (Wicklin) (Ind.), 1866.....	J. V. George (R.),
Spring:	
St. John's (S. Spring) (R.), 1794-1812-'85.....	W. J. Kerschner, 295
	(Lutheran also from 1812 to 1897)
Kissinger's (U.), 1851-'91.....	R. S. Appel (R.), 105
	E. S. Brownmiller (L.), 95
St. John's (S. Spring) (L.), 1897.....	J. W. Lazarus, 328
Union:	
St. James (Geigertown) (L.), 1850-'96.....	Z. H. Gable, 75

FRIENDS

Exeter:	1725
Maiden-creek:	
Orthodox.....	1759
Hicksite.....	1853
Bern:	1745
Robeson:	1735

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL

Amity:	
St. Gabriel's, 1765-1800-'84.....	Wm. R. Holloway, 41
Caernarvon:	
St. Thomas, 1740-1824.....	(vacant), 29

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Washington:	
Bally, 1743-1837.....	Charles Sauer, 1,000

PRESBYTERIAN

Heidelberg:	
Robeson Chapel, 1869	

METHODIST EPISCOPAL

Caernarvon:	
Morgantown, 1832-'78.....	W. C. Amthor, 206
Harmony, 1871.....	I. S. Seitz
Union:	
Forest, 1773-1858.....	I. S. Seitz
Monocacy, 1873.....	A. I. Collom, 20

BAPTIST

Caernarvon:	
Rock, 1844.....	(vacant), 15
Cumru:	
Millmont, 1893.....	J. A. Maxwell

MENNONITE

Brecknock:
Allegheny and Gehman. These two churches are connected with Bowmansville, in Lancaster county, under Bishop Benjamin Weaver.

Washington:	
Bally—Old, 1743-1899.....	{ Andrew Mack 90
	{ John Ehst
New, 1851-'97.....	A. S. Shelly, 206

SCHWENKELDER

Washington:	
1824-'83.....	O. S. Kriebel

EVANGELICAL

Albany:	
Zion's, 1872.....	G. Burrell, 6
Salem, 1883.....	G. Burrell, 26

Bern:	
Centreville, 1852.....	N. Simon, 3

Centre:	
Jerusalem, 1862.....	N. Simon, 11

Colebrookdale:	
New Berlinville, 1850.....	

Longswamp:	
Shamrock, 1870.....	

Maiden-creek:	
Elandon, 1875.....	N. Simon, 33

Ontlaunce:	
Leesport, 1901.....	N. Simon, 23

Penn:	
1852-'72-'83.....	

Perry:	
Shoemakersville, 1857.....	N. Simon, 18

Tulpehocken:	
St. Paul's, 1852.....	

UNITED EVANGELICAL

Heidelberg:	
Robeson, 1895.....	S. Buntz
Hereford:	
Bethesda.....	Thomas Knecht

Oley:	
Friedensburg, 1881-'89-'95.....	John T. Layton } 127
Pleasantville, 1869-'95.....	John T. Layton }

Richmond:	
Virginville, 1883-'95.....	H. J. Kline

Ruscombmanor:	
Pricetown, 1857-'95.....	John T. Layton



Spring:
Mohr's Hill, 1845-'95.....C. S. Mengel, 30
Washington:
Clayton, 1899.....Thomas Knecht

GERMAN BAPTIST BROTHERS

Perry:
Mohrsville (continuation of North-kill Church),
1748.....(vacant), 42
Ruscombmanor:
Pricetown (continuation of Oley Church), 1740-'80-
1807.....(vacant)

UNITED BROTHERS

Caernarvon:
(Morgantown).....
Perry:
Salem, 1876.....
Spring:
Sinking Spring, 1867.....
Tilden:
Loose's, 1870.....
Tulpehocken:
Trinity, 1848-'85.....

SUNDAY SCHOOLS OF BERKS COUNTY

The thirty-third annual convention of the Berks County Sunday School Association was held in the First Presbyterian Church at Reading on April 22, 1909, and the attendance was very large. The county has been divided into eighteen districts and all of them were represented. Thirteen religious denominations were represented.

The association was organized in 1875 with J. H. Sternbergh as the first president and Lewis Crater as the secretary. In 1881 Samuel J. Weiler was elected secretary, and he has served continuously until the present in a most efficient manner, without compensation. He prepared the following valuable statement, which shows the Sunday-schools of the respective denominations, the superintendents, and the membership. Charles H. Leinbach, superintendent of St. Andrew's Reformed Sunday-school, served as president for the year 1908-09, and was re-elected to serve for the year 1909-10.

1st District—Birdsboro, Union

Name	Supt.	Members
Birdsboro M. E., Birdsboro.....	G. F. Handwork	268
Monocacy M. E., Monocacy.....	Caleb H. Bland	89
Trinity Evan., Birdsboro.....	Ed. McChalacker	332
Calvary U. E., Birdsboro.....	Anna Willard	138
Grace U. B., Birdsboro.....	S. C. Millard	146
St. Mark's Lutheran, Birdsboro.....	Charles Rhoads	224
St. Paul's Reformed, Birdsboro.....	Jacob De Turk	113
St. Michael's Episcopal, Birdsboro.....	Harry Kissinger	141
Kuipstown Union, Union.....	James Blood	80
Cedar Hill Union, Union.....	Harry Hoffman	60
St. Paul's M. E., Geigertown.....	L. M. High	122
St. James' Lutheran, Geigertown.....	E. M. Zerr	63

1,776

2d District—Robeson, Caernarvon

Name	Supt.	Members
St. John's Union, Gibraltar.....	H. K. Winines	224
Robeson Union, Ploverville.....	M. J. Fshleman	145
Harmony M. E., Joanna.....	J. W. Jacobs	85
Mt. Shiloh Evan., nr. Morgantown.....	Aaron Trait	79
Morgantown M. E., Morgantown.....	George H. Muhlberg	91
Gibraltar Union, Gibraltar.....	Samuel W. Kerst	172
Seyfert Holiness Chris., Seyfert.....	A. J. Smith	81
Zion's Union, Robeson.....	W. Piersol	116

1,003

3d District—Lenhartsville, Greenwiche, Albany

Name	Supt.	Members
Bethel Zions Union, Grimville.....	A. A. Fister	117
Clover Mill Union, Stony Run.....	Fred Feinour	80
Dunkel's Church Union, Virginville.....	C. S. Merkel	115

*The word Union after the name of the Sunday-school indicates Lutheran and Reformed combined.

Eckville Union, Albany.....	Reuben Bolich	33
Frieden's Union, Stony Run.....	James A. Schroeder	161
Kempton Union, Kempton.....	James Leibold	60
New Bethel Union, Repton.....	James S. Focht	75
Lenhartsville Union, Lenhartsville.....	A. B. Greenawalt	270
New Jerusalem Union, Stony Run.....	Calvin Krause	106
Salem Evangelical, Albany.....	James E. Snyder	60
St. Paul's Union, Virginville.....	Milton L. Leiby	94

1,171

4th District—Boyetown, Bechtelsville, Colebrookdale, Douglass, Washington

Name	Supt.	Members
Good Shepherd Reformed, Boyertown.....	Daniel D. Leidy	436
St. John's Lutheran, Boyertown.....	Thos. R. Houck	645
Ebenezer M. E., Boyertown.....	W. W. Wrenn	74
Trinity U. E., Boyertown.....	E. E. Stauffer	109
Hereford New Mennonite, Hereford.....	Dr. O. M. Burkey	175
Brethren, Boyertown.....	F. Ritter	85
Zion's Evangelical, New Berlinville.....	H. B. Stauffer	40
Trinity Union, Bechtelsville.....	Alfred Brumbach	292
Union, Pine Iron Works.....	Mrs. F. Kuitz	103
Bethany U. E., Clayton.....	Wm. Clemmer	90
Union, Gabelsville.....	Jesse R. Bechtel	114
Union, Greshville.....	J. Weller	112

2,278

5th District—West Reading, Wyomissing, Spring, Lower Heidelberg

Name	Supt.	Members
First Reformed, Wernersville.....	Leonard M. Ruth	255
Trinity Lutheran, Wernersville.....	T. C. Bricker	95
Green Terrace Un., Wernersville.....	John A. Werner	80
Oak Hill Union, Lower Heidelberg.....	Solomon A. Brossman	153
Kissinger's Union, Spring Tp.....	Henry G. Kissinger	82
Marsh Union, Lorain.....	A. L. Bickel	77
Olive Leaf Union, Fritztown.....	E. R. Eckenroth	139
St. John's Ref., Sinking Spring.....	H. Zehman	68
Salem U. B., Sinking Spring.....	H. M. Calk	115
St. John's Luth., Sinking Spring.....	Henry H. Yost	136
St. James Ref., West Reading.....	Milton Gring	431
Vinemont Union, Spring Tp.....	Henry Johnson	94
Evans Union, Spring Tp.....	A. I. Noll	69
Bethany Lutheran, West Reading.....	W. O. Laub	265
Memorial U. E., Mohr's Hill.....		55

2,265

6th District—Hamburg, Tilden, Windsor, Upper Bern

Name	Supt.	Members
Bethany M. E., Hamburg.....	H. R. Shollenberger	159
St. John's Lutheran, Hamburg.....	H. C. Kline	303
Salem U. B., Hamburg.....	William B. Miller	303
First Reformed, Hamburg.....	Ivin A. Diener	303
St. Paul's Union, Windsor Tp.....	Isaac Krick	105
Liberty Cross Roads Union, Tilden.....	C. F. S. Ketter	77
St. Michael's Union, Tilden.....	F. H. Naftzinger, O. F. Berger	295
Bern Union, Tilden.....	P. E. Naftzinger	74
West Hamburg Union, Tilden.....	Alfred M. H. DeLong	105
Zion's Union, F. Winkler.....	F. Baynham	125
Shartlesville Union, Shartlesville.....	James F. Naftzinger	222
Salem U. B., Tilden.....	V. K. Fisher	92
Bern Union, Upper Bern.....	H. M. Heckman	75

2,137

7th District—Topton, District, Longwamp, Hereford

Name	Supt.	Members
Grace U. E., Topton.....	Edgar Rohrbach	118
St. Peter's Union, Topton.....	F. J. Fisher	215
Longwamp Union, Longwamp.....	Roy E. Maybry	121
Pilgrt's Union, Longwamp.....		69
Bush's Union, Longwamp.....	Augustus R. Frey	64
St. Paul's Union, Mertztown.....	Charles B. Miller	134
Hancock Union, Longwamp.....	Charles B. Miller	140
Stern's Union, District.....	Peter K. Stern	84
Landsville Union, District.....	Elmer H. Bechtel	49
Huff's Church Union, Hereford.....	Jacob Gries	170
Chapel Union, Hereford.....	Fred W. Huber	169
Schlossburg Union, Longwamp.....	Lizzie M. Findly	93

1,406

8th District—Mt. Penn, Lower Alsace, Exeter, Amity, East

Name	Supt.	Members
St. Lawrence Union, Esterly.....	W. D. Brumbach	282
Bethany Union, Stony Creek Mills.....	R. J. Calm	160
Baumstown Union, Baumstown.....	C. L. Shantz	123
Snyderville Union, Limekill.....	Chas. Knaab	99
Trinity Reformed, Mt. Penn.....	J. R. Dickenson	105
Locust Dale U. Locust Dale.....	M. K. Kaylor	133
Union Union, Monocacy.....	J. R. Kline	80
Lorane Union, Lorane.....	J. E. Troxel	103
Fairview Union, Baumtown.....	Howard Happle	96
Douglassville Un., Douglassville.....	C. H. Hine	90
Jacksonwald Union, Jacksonwald.....	C. R. Bortz	82
Amityville Union, Atlatl.....	C. R. Geizer	95
Waverly Union, Brimfield.....	H. V. Harlow	90
Stonersville Union, Stonersville.....	Charles Kline	90
Allsorts Union, Neversink.....	H. S. Ludwig	60
St. Gabriel's Episc., Douglassville.....	S. McElwee	90
Faith Lutheran, Mt. Penn.....	George Hartline	98

1,886



9th District—Altoona, Oley, Pike

Name	Supt.	Members
Oley Union, Spangville.....	John P. Fisher	143
St. Joseph's Union, Hill Church.....	D. M. Dwyer	110
Frieden's Lutheran, Oley.....	J. B. Seil	190
St. John's Reformed, Oley.....	J. B. Lembach	238
Zion U. E., Oley.....	L. M. Bettelot	99
Spies's Union, Altoona Tp.....	Charles B. Moyer	220
St. Paul's Union, Lobachsville.....	L. F. Reinbach	116
Bethany U. E., Manatowney.....	Charles L. Scherer	83

1,199

10th District—Centreport, Centre, West Leesport, Bern

Name	Supt.	Members
Bern Church Union, Bern Tp.....	Jared L. Snyder	250
White Oak Union, Bern Tp.....	Jared L. Snyder	89
Meeting House Evang., Bern Tp.....	John Schaurer	55
Epler's Church Union, Bern Tp.....	A. B. Ammarell	147
Belleman's Union, Centre Tp.....	D. Engenstose	131
Bethany U. E., West Leesport.....	Samuel Bell	52

724

11th District—Fleetwood, Ruscombmanor, Maiden-Creek, Richmond

Name	Supt.	Members
St. John's Union, Pricetown.....	Mrs. C. Web. Brown	92
Mennonite Brethren, Blandon.....	Osar B. Adam	59
St. Paul's Union, Fleetwood.....	C. H. Adam	242
Allegheny Union, Knauer's.....	P. H. Kuchner	175
Blandon Union, Blandon.....	Jacob Shuman	187
Kirbyville Union, Kirbyville.....	Ivan Hoch	55
Center Union, Moselen Springs.....	Howard Rahn	110
Schlemmerville Union, Melltown.....	B. Adam	97
Walnuttown Cn., near Fleetwood.....	Matthias Montz	59
St. Stephen's U. E., Virginville.....	William Shappel	90
Salem U. E., Pricetown.....	Mrs. Catharine Moyer	49

1,245

12th District—Mohnton, Cumru, Brecknock

Name	Supt.	Members
Eshleman's Union, Cumru.....	Charles Griffith	123
Wyomissing Luth., Gouglersville.....	Sadie Price	156
Wyomissing Un., Gouglersville.....	Frank Eckenroth	171
Millmont Baptist, Millmont.....	Harry Stetler	82
Oakbrook Lutheran, Oakbrook.....		80
Grace Lutheran, Shillington.....	F. S. Naele	100
Salem Evangelical, Mohnton.....	John Werner	220
Enanuel Reformed, Shillington.....	W. A. Miller	274
Zion's U. E., Mohnton.....	George H. Leubinger	130
St. John's Lutheran, Mohnton.....	C. B. Knirk	220
Yocum's Union, Grills.....	W. A. Andrews	158
Angelica Union, Cumru.....	H. O. Frey	140
Gebhart's Union, Cumru.....	Henry Seibert	132
Five Mile House Union, Cumru.....	J. White	112
St. Luke's U. E., Shillington.....	C. E. Collier	180

2,771

13th District—Reading, Muhlenberg

Name	Supt.	Members
St. Mark's Reformed, Greenwich		
and Ritter.....	D. V. R. Ludwig	1,575
First Reformed, Washington and		
Reed.....	Selos R. Barnett	1,854
St. Stephen's Reformed, Ninth		
and Greenwich.....	W. D. DeLong	1,266
St. Andrew's Reformed, Spruce		
and Miller.....	C. H. Leinbach	1,135
Zion's Reformed, Washington and		
Cedar.....	Andrew S. Long	816
St. Paul's Reformed, Sixth above		
Washington.....	Rev. C. E. Creitz	756
St. John's Reformed, Ninth and		
Chestnut.....	William A. Levan	704
Calvary Reformed, Centre Ave.		
and Oley.....	A. V. Casselman	642
St. Thomas' Reformed, Eleventh		
and Windsor.....	E. F. Hendricks	610
Second Reformed, Sixth below		
Cherry.....	John H. Bridenbaugh	494
Faith Reformed, Bingham bet.		
Fourth and Fifth.....	Dr. D. S. Grim	478
Alsace Grace Reformed, Kutztown		
Road.....	George McKently	339
Olivet Reformed, Centre Ave.		
and Exeter.....	William Leinbach	320
Temple Reformed, Temple, Pa.....	Joseph A. Wise	114

St. Luke's Lutheran, N. Ninth		
near Green.....	Benj. Gruber	1,255
Trinity Lutheran, Sixth and		
Washington.....	A. Raymond Bard	885
Grace Lutheran, Eleventh and		
Cherry.....	J. C. Holloway	784
St. John's Lutheran, Church and		
Walnut.....	A. Bendel	709
Hope Luth., Front and Green-		
wich.....	Jacob T. Drumbeller	651
St. Matthew's Luth., Fifth and		
Elm.....	C. W. Haug	552
St. James Luth., Fifth and		
Chestnut.....	Samuel K. Knabb	545
St. Mark's Luth., Tenth and		
Windsor.....	Henry E. Hilbert	469

Alsace Lutheran, Kutztown Road	D. D. Becker	340
St. Paul's Luth., Sixteenth and		
Perkiomen.....	P. H. Lash	325
St. John's Mission Luth., Chap-		
el Terrace above Cotton.....	A. Bendel	106
St. Peter's Luth., No. 1331 Deug-		
lass.....	A. A. Koser	50
Peace Lutheran, Riverside.....		150

Covenant, M. E., Ninth and Elm	H. J. Printz	584
St. Peter's M. E., Fifth and		
Pine.....	F. F. Boas	483
Windsor St., M. E., Front and		
Windsor.....	W. H. Morris	482
Holy Cross, M. E., N. Fifth nr.		
Buttonwood.....	Walter S. Davis	476
People's M. E., S. Fourth above		
Franklin.....	A. W. Heim	288
Bethel M. E., N. Tenth nr.		
Washington.....	T. J. Long	86
People's Primitive M. E., No.		
1325 N. Tenth.....	Bert LeSuer	138
East End M. E., No. 1338 N.		
Tenth.....	F. C. S. Snyder	70

First U. E., Eighth and Court	W. H. Hendel	971
St. Paul's U. E., Moss and		
Greenwich.....	William W. Fetter	758
Grace U. E., Sixth and Elm	S. N. Walley	407
Trinity U. E., S. Eleventh near		
Spruce.....	H. J. Heck	275
Bethany U. E., Second and Doug-		
lass.....		

Salem Evangelical, Eighth near		
Court.....	William H. Miller, Jr.	540
Immanuel Evan., S. Sixth and		
Keeper.....	Harry Eisenberg	420
Ebenezer Evan., Ninth near But-		
tonwood.....	Walter C. Hoffman	397
Christ Evan., Eleventh and Rob-		
eson.....	R. B. Davis	276
St. Matthew's Evan., Eighteenth		
and Cotton.....	George Boyer	218

Salem U. E., Tenth and Spring.....	F. G. Leibold	618
Zion's U. E., Ninth below Penn.	William J. Levan	470
Memorial U. E., Buttonwood and		
McKnight.....	William E. Taylor	401
Otterbein U. E., Eighth and Elm	G. Walter Behney	272

First Baptist, Fifth and Chestnut	H. G. Kurtz	568
Bergan Baptist, N. Ninth above		
Douglas.....	R. A. Rankin	236
Schyl. Av. Baptist, Schyl. Av. nr.		
Greenwich.....	David H. Wyle	130
Zion Baptist, No. 231 Poplar.....	Mrs. E. D. Harris	57
Shloh Baptist, No. 126 N. Tenth.....	Mrs. Mary Clippert	28
German Baptist, between Green-		
wich and Oley.....	Tim Wiess	97

St. Barnabas Epis., Sixth and		
Bingham.....	Ira W. Stratton	251
Christ Episcopal, Fifth and Court.....	Thomas P. Merritt	197
St. Mary's Epis., Front and		
Windsor.....	H. P. Walter	194
St. Luke's Epis., Robeson and		
Mulberry.....	William B. Burk	135

First Presbyterian, Fifth nr.		
Franklin.....	H. J. Hayden	348
Olivet Pres., Eighth and Wash-		
ington.....	J. R. Mortimer	388
Washington St. Pres., Mulberry		
and Washington.....	Geo. T. Hawkins	130

First Christian, Chris., Chestnut		
above Fourth.....	Morris S. Glass	140

Church of Our Father, Univ.,		
Franklin above Fourth.....	Samuel F. Guss	114

Mennonite Breth., Men., Tenth		
near Oley.....		160

Friendship Mission, Reformed		
Evan., Cotton above Tenth.....	Jacob H. Kutz	173

Calvary Mission, Followers of		
Christ, Washington nr. Second.....	Herbert Green	112
People's Mission, Followers of		
Christ, Little Gordon.....	Pastor	106
Mifflin St., Followers of Christ,		
No. 219 Mifflin.....	Mrs. Rishell	35

Neversink, Interdenom., No. 728		
Bingham.....	A. H. Reist	121
Temple, Interdenom., Temple, Pa.....	A. H. Reist	50

Adventists Windsor and Hant-		
den.....		58



Scientists, Christian Science, No.	
429 Walnut	Lillian D. Wilson 24
Hinnershitz Union, Reformed	
and Luth., Tuckerton	William Fisher 248
	30,199

Union, Mohrsville	James H. Wagner 169
Zion's Union, Windsor, Cas-	
tle	A. F. Bayer 204
Gernant's Union, Leesport	Charles L. Kershner 100
Ebenezer Evangelical, Shoen-	
makersville	Mrs. Amanda Yoh 25
Perry Union, Virgawille	Wilson P. Adam 81
Evangelical, Leesport	Frank W. Adam 48

1,224

GENERAL SUMMARY

14th District—Bethel, Tulpehocken, Upper Tulpehocken		
Name	Supt.	Members
Host Union, Tulpehocken	O. F. Okenreider, W. W. Derr	152
Zion's Union, Strausstown	C. A. Unger	191
St. John's Reformed, Mt.		
Aetna	C. P. Klepp	115
U. B., Mt. Aetna	John D. Klepp	70
Lutheran, Mt. Aetna	Joan A. Gruber	61
Union, Rehrersburg	E. G. Moyer	105
Lutheran, Rehrersburg	W. J. Kurr	67
Union, Wintersville	Ralph Weber	55
Moll's Union, Upper Tulpe-		
hocken	L. C. Freeman	52
German Baptist, Crosskill Mills	Ira Giblee	58
Ziegler's Baptist, Rehrersburg	Henry C. Ziegler	72
Merkey's Baptist, Bethel	Samuel Sherman	66
Bethel Union, Bethel	P. C. Clemmens	118
Kcener's Union, Tulpehock-		
en	F. J. Paulus	50
Schubert's Union, Bethel	James R. Roth	46
Merkey's Union, Bethel	John Porter	48
		1,326

15th District—Bernville, Jefferson, Penn		
Name	Supt.	Members
Mt. Pleasant Union, Mt.		
Pleasant	James O. Kreider	130
Berger's Union, Scull Hill	M. J. Portteiger	130
Jefferson Union, Jefferson Tp.	Daniel Reigel	93
St. Paul's Union, Jefferson Tp.	James M. Baltheiser	64
Groff's Union, Jefferson Tp.	Perceval Groff	75
St. Thomas' Union, Bern-		
ville	S. P. Wilhelm	165
Frieder's Lutheran, Bernville	J. Paul Burkett	62
Cross Keys Union, Krick's		
Mills	R. J. Anderson	100
		809

16th District—Kutztown, Maxatawny, Rockland		
Name	Supt.	Members
St. John's Reformed, Kutz-		
town	Clem. J. Stiehler	233
St. Paul's Lutheran, Lyons	J. A. Stiewalt	140
Christ's Reformed, Bowers	J. J. DeLong	101
Zion's Union, Maxatawny	Joel Heffner, George C. Her-	250
	mann	
St. Paul's Reformed, Kutz-		
town	Francis Sharidan	153
Trinity Luth., Kutztown	Quinton D. Hermann	274
Union Union, Lyons	S. M. Hoch	100
St. John's Lutheran, Kutz-		
town	Samuel Heffner	224
Grace U. E., Kutztown	Thomas S. Ryan	92
Christ's Lutheran, Dryville	Amos F. Breidenam	187
New Jerusalem Reformed		
Rockland	A. A. DeLong	109
Bethel Union, Rockland	William A. Schwayer	104
Ruppert's Union, Rockland	A. F. Ruppert	76
Dryville Union, Rockland	A. S. Aungstadt	60
		2,153

17th District—Womelsdorf, Heidelberg, Marion, North Heidelberg		
Name	Supt.	Members
Robesonia Reformed, Robe-		
sonia	J. L. J. Stoult	174
U. E., Robesonia	Jacob B. Putt	45
U. E., Womelsdorf	A. Baub	68
Stoucheburg Union, Stouche-		
burg	P. W. Gerhart	154
Bethany O Home Ref., Wom-		
elsdorf	Wilson T. Moore	152
St. Daniel's Lutheran, Robe-		
sonia	H. W. Shuler	127
Good Samaritan Union, Wom-		
elsdorf	C. R. Leijnbaech	260
Tannery Union, Heidelberg	Dr. F. F. Massey	68
Hill Union, North Heidel-		
berg	Thos. J. Zerhe	99
Zion's Lutheran, Stoucheburg	E. H. Kline	132
Long's Lutheran, Stoucheburg	A. J. Lome	90
Moyer's Union, Marion Tp.	Edwin Miller	90
		1,459

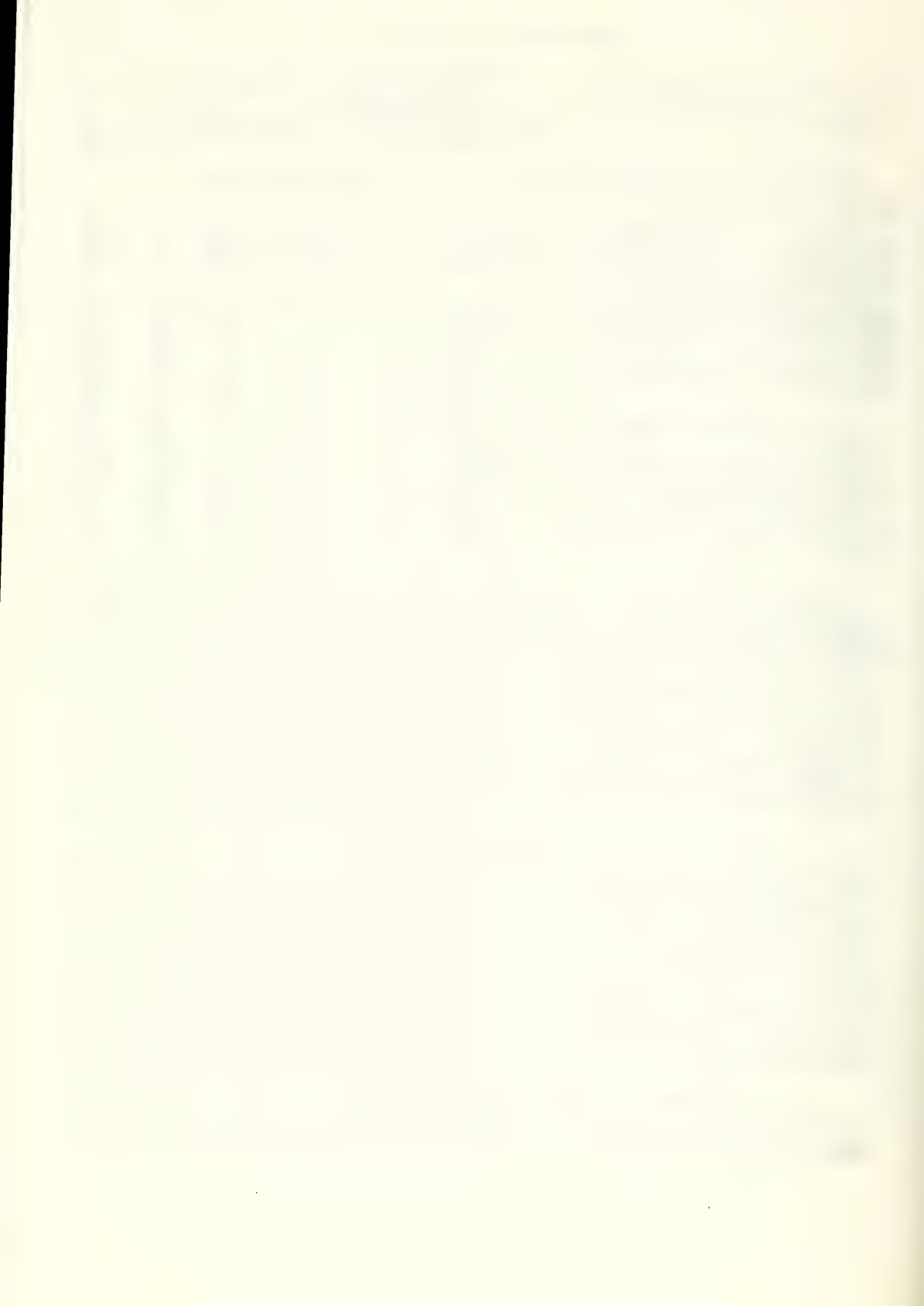
18th District—Leesport, Perry, Ontelaunee		
Name	Supt.	Members
Salem U. B., Shoemakers-		
ville	H. S. Madeira	130
Trinity Union, Leesport	C. E. Snyal	123
Union, Shoemakersville	W. K. Smith	214

No. of District	No. of Schools	Open all Year	Officers and Teachers	Scholars	Total Enrollment
1st	12	12	177	1,599	1,776
2d	8	7	115	807	1,003
3d	11	4	167	965	1,171
4th	12	10	235	1,983	2,278
5th	15	9	265	1,815	2,265
6th	13	10	255	1,731	2,137
7th	12	5	213	1,173	1,406
8th	17	17	272	1,563	1,887
9th	8	7	148	990	1,199
10th	6	2	134	590	724
11th	11	6	203	1,042	1,245
12th	16	12	314	2,437	2,771
13th	73	73	2,451	24,089	30,199
14th	16	11	230	1,031	1,326
15th	8	5	178	601	809
16th	14	10	269	1,829	2,155
17th	12	10	184	1,235	1,459
18th	9	7	167	1,054	1,234
Total	273	217	6,077	46,534	57,032

SUNDAY MAILS.—During the winter of 1829-30, a great excitement prevailed throughout the country respecting the transportation of mails on Sundays. Attempts had been made by petitions of certain religious societies to the Congress of the previous year, to induce legislation on the subject, but the general remonstrance was so earnest that the committee of reference reported adversely, intimating that Congress ought not, and could not, legally exercise the power of legislation on questions involving religious observance and the rights of conscience; and these attempts were renewed before the Congress then sitting, causing the development of great feeling everywhere on the subject.

A large meeting of citizens of the county was held in the court-house at Reading on Jan. 23, 1830, for the purpose of uttering a protest against interference on the one hand or legislation on the other, and a committee of distinguished citizens was appointed to draft appropriate resolutions. It was composed of David F. Gordon, Esq., George M. Keim, Esq., George Fox, Isaac Ritter and Dr. William J. C. Baum. The attempts to induce legislation prohibiting the transportation of mail on Sunday were disapproved, because it was believed that such attempts were incipient steps toward the attainment of an object fatal to religious freedom—the union of civil and ecclesiastical authority in the same individuals.

Appropriate petitions were circulated, subscribed by many persons, and these were forwarded to



Congress; and this expression of public sentiment caused the religious movement to cease its agitation and finally pass away. The transportation of mail on Sunday was not prohibited, but continued as a work of necessity.

GENERAL EDUCATION

EARLY ENCOURAGEMENT.—The first settlers appreciated the importance of education, and encouraged it as a means of promoting the general welfare. They erected churches wherever they had effected a considerable settlement, and in them they caused their children to be taught the common branches of education, such as spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic. This teaching was influenced to a great degree by the religious spirit that prevailed amongst them; indeed, religious principles were considered a vital part of their education.

During the first settlements and until the passage of the common school law of 1834, the education that prevailed throughout the length and breadth of the county was almost entirely German. The prevalence of German education was a natural consequence from the great predominance of German settlers over all other nationalities. In Exeter, Oley, Maiden-creek, Robeson, and Reading districts, the Friends were rather numerous, and they established English schools at an early period, which they continued for many years.

The first German settlers had brought along teachers and ministers, who were so recognized before emigration. If there were no minister, the teacher officiated in both capacities. Some teachers even practised their trades, such as tailoring or shoemaking, whilst teaching.

A notion has obtained that education was not carried on to any considerable extent in the county at an early day, and till the adoption of the common school system, but this is wrong. A good idea can be obtained from the following extract from a letter, dated Reading, April 9, 1763, addressed by Rev. Alexander Murray to the secretary of the Venerable Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, stationed in England:

The county for miles around this town is thick peopled, but what few else than Germans and Quakers, the former being computed twelve to one of all other nations together, and seem to be abundantly well provided in teachers of one denomination or another, and as long as they are so blindly attached to their native tongue, as they are at present, an English minister can be of no great service to them. For this they might be at no loss for English school-masters, yet they choose to send their children rather to German schools, which they have everywhere in great plenty.

The Moravians, during their settlement in Oley, erected two dwellings on land donated to them by John de Turck. The first was occupied early in 1745; and the second in 1748, for school purposes. In the latter there was a flourishing boarding-school for several years; into which were incorporated the Moravian schools of Germantown and Frederick township.

On July 31, 1750, a beginning was made to dissolve the Moravian school in Frederick township, by transferring pupils to other schools, and in the last week of August, 1750, sixteen were transferred to Oley.

FIRST TEACHERS.—The following persons were teachers before 1752:

George Stiefel, John Nicholas Kurtz, and Casper Leutbecker in Tulpehocken.

Frederick Hoelwig in Longswamp.

John Valentine Kraft in Richmond.

Theodore Schneider in Hereford.

George Youngman in Oley.

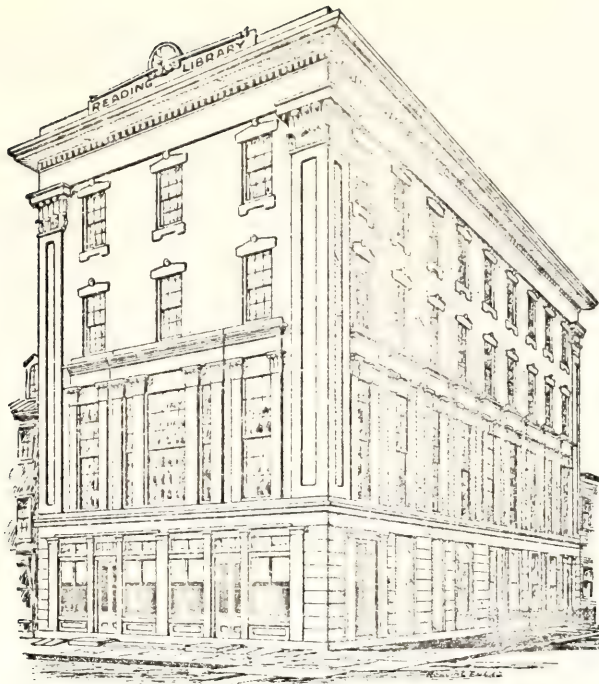
In 1743, the following provision was made in Richmond township toward the encouragement of teaching:

That it is our most earnest desire that the teacher, as well as the preacher, shall be fairly compensated so that he can live with his family as an honest man, without being obliged to engage in any business foreign to his profession. To this end the teacher and the preacher shall have the land and the house on it free, as long as they officially serve the congregation.

Pay schools were maintained in every district, the pupils paying several cents a day, according to the number of branches taught; and this custom prevailed from the beginning until long after the system of 1834 had been introduced.

Parochial schools were carried on and encouraged in connection with churches in the several sections of the county, being always situated near by. The preachers, elders and deacons were expected to see that the teacher maintained good order and that each pupil received proper attention. The teacher had to possess a good character, and ability to sing and teach singing as well as to teach the common branches.

CHARITY SCHOOLS.—A charitable society was established early for the instruction of poor Germans and their descendants in Pennsylvania. Previous to 1751, certain Reformed ministers who had settled among the immigrants found them in distress. They entreated the churches of Holland to commiserate their unhappy fellow-Christians, and contributions were sent to these remote parts. In 1751, Holland and West Friesland granted two thousand guilders per annum for five years toward instructing the Germans and their children in Pennsylvania. Great encouragement was given to this scheme by persons of the first rank in Great Britain, King George III. having contributed £1,000 toward this object, and the Princess Dowager of Wales £100; and the proprietaries engaged to give a considerable sum every year to promote the undertaking. The society then adopted certain resolutions for the management of the scheme, and proposed a plan for establishing schools. The Governor of the Province recognized the utility of the scheme and appointed a board of trustees for its proper direction. Conrad Weiser was one of the members of this board, and Rev. Michael Schlatter was appointed general supervisor. Petitions from Reading and Tulpehocken were addressed to the board in the



READING FREE LIBRARY—PAGE 210



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING OF READING SCHOOL DISTRICT—PAGE 203

early part of 1755 to secure the benefit of these contributions so as to establish some of the schools, and Schlatter accordingly organized a school at each of the places named.

But the charity schools proved an utter failure, and Schlatter was personally the chief sufferer. His official position as superintendent rendered him the main object of popular hatred, though for a time the Lutheran and Reformed ministers had sustained him. The German people lost confidence in this undertaking through the denunciations of Christopher Sauer, who asserted in his German newspaper (published at Germantown) that these schools were intended to prepare the way for establishing the Church of England in this part of the province, and in this way it was believed Schlatter's influence was entirely destroyed.

COMMON SCHOOLS.—Various and repeated legislative attempts were made toward general education throughout the State, and they gradually developed a public sentiment in its behalf until finally there was established the compulsory system, provided by the Act of 1849, which was improved by the Act of 1854.

The Constitution of 1776 had provided that "a school or schools shall be established in each county by the Legislature for the convenient instruction of youth, with such salaries to the masters paid by the public as may enable them to instruct youth at low prices"; and that of 1790: "The Legislature shall, as soon as conveniently may be, provide by law for the establishment of schools throughout the State in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis." This provision continued in the fundamental law of the State unchanged until the new Constitution of 1873, when it was modified as follows: "The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of public schools wherein all the children of this Commonwealth above the age of six years may be educated, and shall appropriate at least one million dollars each year for that purpose."

A great weakness in its early history was the incompetency of teachers. Educated men and women of experience in teaching could not be obtained because duty to themselves and to their families obliged them to labor in vocations which afforded better remuneration; and a pronounced opposition, on account of burdensome and unjust taxation to support the system, discouraged those who felt inclined to teach. But a greater weakness than incompetent teachers existed. It was the distinctive feature of the public schools and of the children attending them, for they were called "pauper schools," and "pauper scholars," and this made them odious to the very class that was to be principally benefited.

In 1833, when the State contained about eight hundred thousand children, less than twenty-five thousand attended the common schools—just one in thirty-one, or about three per cent, notwithstanding the offer of education at the public expense. But in 1883, the State contained about two million children; and the number attending common schools was over nine hundred and fifty thousand, nearly one-half, an increase of sixteen-fold in fifty years.

The general system, provided by the act of 1834, is attributable to a society which was organized at Philadelphia in 1827. The express object of this society was general education throughout the State, and its efforts, after laboring in this behalf for seven years against bitter opposition, culminated in the passage of the act mentioned. In 1835 a great effort was made to repeal this act, but it failed. The credit of preserving the system at that time is given to Governor George Wolf and Hon. Thaddeus Stevens.

SYSTEM ACCEPTED BY DISTRICTS.—The following statement shows the year when the several districts of the county accepted the common school system:

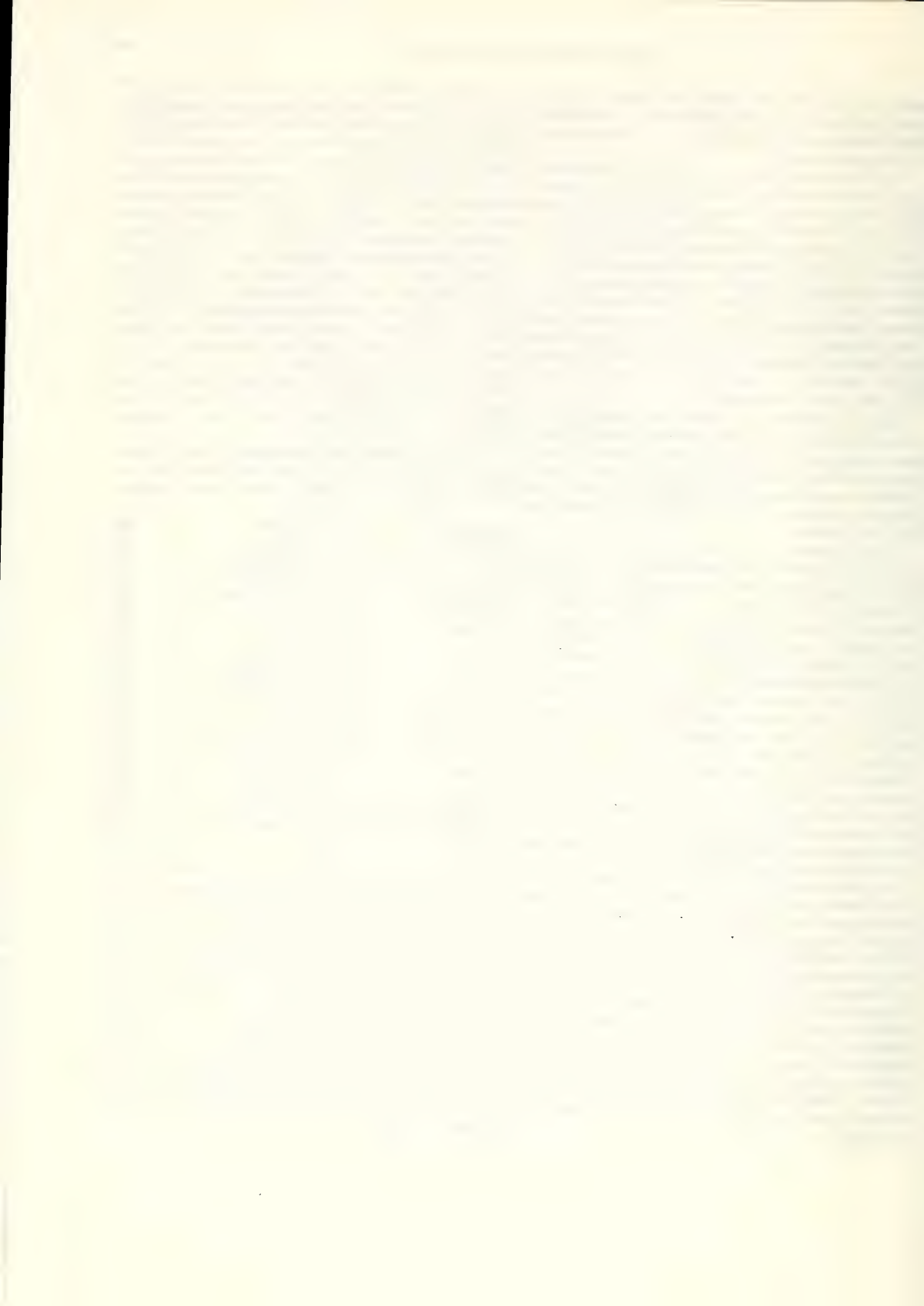
Reading	1834	Rockland	1850
Caernarvon	1834	Spring	1850
Robeson	1836	Tulpehocken.	1850
Union	1836	Washington	1850
Womelsdorf	1836	Windsor	1850
Ruscombmanor	1837	Eern, Upper	1851
Colebrookdale	1838	Bernville	1851
Hamburg	1838	Centre	1851
Kutztown	1838	Earl	1851
Marion	1839	Greenwich	1851
Hereford	1845	Longswamp	1851
Alsace	1849	Muhlenberg	1851
Exeter	1849	Ontelaunee	1851
Heidelberg	1849	Penn	1851
Maiden-creek	1849	Perry	1851
Amity	1850	Pike	1851
Bern	1850	Maxatawny	1852
Brecknock.	1850	Bethel	1854
Cumru	1850	Richmond	1854
Douglass.	1850	Albany	1855
Heidelberg, Lower.	1850	Jefferson	1855
Heidelberg, North.	1850	Tulpehocken, Upper ..	1855
Oley	1850		

All the districts had accepted the system of 1834 before the compulsory provision had gone into effect, excepting District township, which held out until 1867, refusing in the meantime to accept the State appropriation. The districts subsequently established, accepted the system at the time of their erection.

Pleasantville was established as a separate district out of Oley township in 1857.

Altogether the districts in the county number sixty-one.

In 1854, the schools numbered 362, and the scholars 10,116; in 1884, the schools, 599, and the scholars, 26,848; and in 1908, the schools, 855, and the scholars, 28,340.



HISTORY OF BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR SCHOOL YEAR ENDING JUNE 1, 1908

Districts	Schools		Teachers				Scholars				Tax and Rate Per Cent	
	Whole number	Average number of months taught	Number of males	Number of females	Average salary of males per month	Average salary of females per month	Number of males	Number of females	Average per cent. of attendance	Cost per month	Number of mills levied for school purposes	Total amount of tax levied for school and building purposes
Albany	12	7	9	3	\$46.66	\$46.66	162	157	87	\$1.99	6	\$3,813.26
Alsace	6	7	6		47.50		88	80	88	1.31	5	1,481.10
Alsace, Lower	4	8		4		48.75	56	57	93	2.01	5	1,924.71
Amity	10	7	5	5	48.00	42.00	151	129	78	2.00	3	2,666.38
Bechtelsville	2	8	1	1	50.00	50.00	47	31	93	1.71	4.5	724.26
Bern	12	7	6	6	43.33	41.66	169	148	88	2.28	3	3,484.71
Bernville	2	8	2		50.00		22	24	93	2.87	7	918.42
Bern, Upper	6	7	3	1	50.00	50.00	80	51	95	2.19	3.5	1,652.99
Bethel	15	7	15		47.66		201	182	91	1.82	4.25	4,066.35
Birdsboro	11	9	3	9	58.34	50.56	236	222	93	2.05	5	8,848.21
Boyetown	9	9	4	6	56.25	50.00	185	217	94	1.57	6.5	6,926.37
Brecknock	6	7	6		45.01		73	62	87	2.74	3	1,353.78
Caernarvon	7	7	1	6	60.00	42.03	58	102	74	1.62	4	2,808.78
Centre	9	7	7	2	44.28	45.00	148	129	88	1.82	3	2,414.83
Centreport	1	7		1			14	19	93	1.88	3	303.13
Colebrookdale	9	7	2	7	45.00	45.71	153	136	87	1.88	3.5	2,460.62
Cumru	26	7	22	4	47.27	45.00	477	547	92	1.83	2.5	10,524.95
District	4	7	4		42.50		66	55	86	1.41	4.5	968.00
Douglass	8	7	3	5	42.33	40.00	125	105	90	1.86	6	2,445.27
Earl	6	7	6		48.33		96	84	89	2.18	5	1,429.19
Exeter	15	7	8	7	48.75	43.55	306	271	91	1.47	3	5,115.73
Fleetwood	5	9	3	2	60.00	50.00	103	120	93	2.40	5	2,943.41
Greenwich	11	7	5	6	48.00	43.33	166	154	91	2.22	4	2,914.76
Hanburg	12	9		8	56.25	50.00	249	226	90	1.58	5	6,335.55
Heidelberg	10	7.87	4	6	55.00	46.66	141	151	89	2.14	2.5	4,284.14
Heidelberg, North	5	7	3	2	50.00	40.00	66	62	90	2.51	3	1,442.03
Heidelberg, Lower	21	7.15	12	9	52.32	46.66	322	282	91	2.27	4	8,567.68
Hereford	8	7	5	3	55.00	43.33	133	99	88	2.09	3.5	2,045.69
Jefferson	7	7	6	1	50.00	50.00	71	76	95	1.77	2.5	1,440.07
Kutztown	4	9	1	3	60.00	50.00	97	106	95	1.35	2.5	4,229.31
Lehigh	1	8			50.00		11	9	92	2.50	4	281.04
Longswamp	16	7.06	6	10	53.00	48.00	222	208	89	2.25	6.5	7,040.00
Maiden-creek	11	7	3	8	43.33	43.75	169	157	89	2.28	3.25	3,492.95
Marion	7	7.14	3	4	52.05	46.25	84	87	91	2.33	2	2,035.23
Maxatawny	15	7	5	10	48.00	47.00	214	188	92	2.19	2.5	4,622.22
Mohrton	7	7.14	6	1	50.66	50.00	148	151	90	1.55	7	3,254.36
Mount Penn	3	9	1	2	55.00	50.00	73	62	86	2.22	4	2,573.51
Muhlenberg	12	7	5	7	50.00	44.29	276	253	88	1.32	2	3,290.56
Oley	13	7.07	12	1	50.42	40.66	334	194	94	1.88	2.5	3,564.31
Ontelaunee	9	7.11	4	5	55.00	44.00	127	121	89	1.75	4	2,940.57
Penn	8	7.25	4	4	51.72	45.17	107	106	93	2.60	4	2,680.58
Perry	12	7.12	8	4	52.50	40.00	180	155	86	1.32	3.5	4,451.96
Pike	6	7	4	2	45.00	50.00	86	75	89	2.22	5	1,401.15
Pleasantville, Ind.	1	7	1		50.00		22	27	94	1.09	2	315.27
Reading	351	10	14	317	111.94	52.51	6,593	6,531	90	1.68	4	230,925.60
Richmond	14	7	2	12	46.10	45.00	199	170	82	2.15	3.5	3,844.52
Robeson	17	7	6	11	46.66	46.00	235	214	86	2.00	4	4,211.48
Rockland	8	7	7	1	45.71	50.00	140	113	87	1.70	6	2,575.25
Ruscombmanor	9	7	7	2	47.14	50.00	123	107	90	2.08	5	1,972.25
Spring	19	7.42	10	9	48.50	46.66	270	243	90	2.28	2.5	6,076.42
Tilden	6	7	5	1	50.00	50.00	115	99	90	1.88	4	2,674.70
Tontown	3	8.33	2	1	51.50	50.00	77	65	94	1.32	4	1,411.62
Tulpehocken	14	7	9	5	47.78	44.00	179	165	89	2.57	3.5	3,548.01
Tulpehocken, Upper	8	7	7	1	47.14	40.00	113	97	91	2.11	4	1,977.23
Union	9	7		9		44.44	110	119	85	1.45	5	2,121.21
Washington	9	7	6	3	45.00	42.33	125	111	88	2.08	3	2,196.11
West Leesport	3	8	1	2	50.00	50.00	30	43	90	2.37	6	969.23
West Reading	7	8	3	4	55.83	47.50	161	144	90	1.61	5.5	3,575.86
Windser	5	7	3	2	48.33	40.00	76	79	90	1.81	2.25	1,058.70
Womelsdorf	6	9	1		85.00	50.00	89	124	93	1.99	6	3,828.49
Wyomissing	3	8				52.55	52	65	80	2.72	3.5	3,876.37
	855	8.24	204	553	\$51.71	\$46.27	14,931	14,400	80	\$1.97	4.06	\$419,797.28

Shillington included still with Cumru, not having been erected.

Note: State appropriation to districts of county, \$129,623.84; of which \$64,155.80 to Reading.

Total estimated value of school property in county, \$2,180,100, and in State, \$99, 264,211.

Total receipts in county for school purposes, \$728,122; teachers' wages, \$375,924; total expenditures, \$926,086.



LECTURE ON WEISER.—Extracts taken from the compiler's lecture on the "Life of Conrad Weiser," delivered in different parts of the county during 1891, 1892 and 1893, by way of describing the direction and influence of the educational system of the State on the people of Berks county:

The general education of the people of Berks county has been going on continuously from the time of the first settlements until now. Starting at a time when a considerable population was settled in all sections of the county, say in 1752 when it was erected as a political organization in the State, and extending over a period embracing a century, the education of the people through the instrumentality of schools was confined to the rudiments, that is, the ordinary accomplishments which enabled them to carry on industrial and social affairs in a successful manner. It was rather of a practical nature, and therefore more inclined to the useful than the ornamental. A common education consisted of a general ability to read, write and cipher, and to talk in the English language reasonably well, and this was regarded as sufficient for the ordinary demands of life.

In 1752, schools were scattered in all the sections of the county. There were several in a township, and the scholars farthest distant were about five miles off. There was no taxation for school purposes. Each scholar paid two or more cents a day, according to studies, and the teacher earned about a dollar a day. The buildings were ordinary structures, built mostly of stone or log. The money expended was made to reach as far as possible. The education obtained was necessarily of a simple nature, so as to be easily acquired. Everything connected with it was expressive of economy. This idea stood out very prominently, and it had a good effect upon the manners and habits of the people. The perceptive faculties were more active than the imaginative. Labor was king, not education. Labor was regarded as the foundation of everything, and education only as a means for facilitating its intelligent direction. Everybody labored—men and boys at farming and industrial pursuits, women and girls in household affairs. It was labor that produced and improved, and economy that multiplied results. Hence the county grew rapidly. There was little or no waste. Notions and practices of this kind prevailed in a general way until about 1854.

Then a uniform system of education was established by the State government and this has prevailed since. It has been encouraged by increasing annual appropriations for school purposes. The enormous amount for the year 1893 (\$6,000,000) shows the people's extraordinary spirit of liberality towards general education. In the interior districts, the school buildings have not advanced much beyond the buildings of 1854, but those of the cities, even of some of the towns, show a remarkable growth in size and appearance. By comparison of general results, it will be found that the system of 1854 has inclined in this time more towards the ornamental than the useful. The scholars are led to devote too much time and energy to information that they do not use, and are not expected to use in the ordinary associations of life; also to matters and things that are too much disposed to develop the imaginative faculties rather than the perceptive.

In this way the love of labor has come to lose its hold upon a large proportion of the people, and consequently labor is no longer king. The spirit of education has grown so much that it is of more consequence than the spirit of labor. Through it the school children are getting to be more and more inclined to settle in employments that are designed to produce or serve things for ornament rather than use, and they are running more towards clerking, soliciting, negotiating and kindred employments which require earnest action of the mind rather than of the body far beyond the natural and equitable demands of society. And the sustenance of this increasing number with their numerous magnified wants is obtained at the

expense of the physical exertions of a large proportion of the people. This has been stimulated to such a degree that it has become burdensome in a very appreciable manner.

A growing inequality in various ways is more and more apparent, especially in respect to property, money and income, and the influences which they exert; and as this inequality grows on the one hand, extravagance manifests itself on the other, indeed, to such an extent that it is commonly regarded as necessary to social existence. A prominent desire, flowing from this inequality, is to profit by the labor of others without mental or physical exertions; and though this is admittedly a great disadvantage against the industrious element of any community it is justified and encouraged without the slightest compunction. A desire growing entirely too common is to fill an office, exercise municipal power and dispose of public funds, all of which lead the mind and conscience away from a just conception of industry and from the real value of money. And another injurious desire, not only in Berks county but elsewhere, is the migration of many industrious people from country districts to populous places where equality, comfort and contentment are not half of what they formerly enjoyed. Decrease of population in townships and increase of it in the cities is a bad indication for the general welfare. Evidently some evil influence is at work that produces such a result in social affairs.

This general tendency must be changed. It must be guided into the channel that was occupied naturally before 1854. Labor must be restored to its position as the recognized king. The practical must be studied and encouraged in preference to the ornamental; and the development of the perceptive faculties must receive a larger share of consideration than the imaginative. Each one of us should be so taught as to obtain a proper idea of industry and to feel the absolute necessity of contributing his share of useful labor in the production of things of real, not speculative value. And industrial affairs should be so conducted, or rather they should be permitted to so regulate themselves without legislation or other interference, that the small communities shall have equal opportunities with populous cities in the race of progress. The question may well be asked: Can this be accomplished? If so, how is it to be done?

I would answer through our schools by teaching branches of knowledge that can be utilized by the scholars when they come to act for themselves and that will fit them for the stations which they may be expected to occupy; through a proper conception of the importance of labor and of local rights, and a uniform desire to co-operate in the several affairs of life; and also through lecturing on the character of men and women who have been useful, just and honorable to the communities in which they lived. In this behalf I have selected CONRAD WEISER as a proper subject for our consideration. By studying his career we shall find for our guidance the useful things of life rather than the ornamental. The former constitute the basis of general association and incline us to co-operate with one another in individual and social affairs; but the latter create a spirit of rivalry and incline us to strike out for ourselves regardless of consequences to others.

Ornamental education has been to us for some years a proud and presumptuous mistress, but we have come to find at last that she has misdirected our efforts and generosity and misled many of us away from the stations for which we were adapted by nature and association. Through her a great many persons have drifted into unproductiveness, idleness, or restlessness to such a degree that it behooves us to stop and see if we cannot find what steps must be taken to restore useful industry and produce general contentment. Investigation and reflection will lead us to conclude that labor must be substituted as master in the place of education as mistress. In this way only can we come to adopt and hold on to the useful and practical, and to transmit our individuality to future generations.



EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE OF WEISER LECTURE.—An introduction to the compiler's lecture, explanatory of his purpose, was published and distributed with the lecture under the auspices of the Reading Board of Trade in 1893, and the forcibleness and truthfulness of his remarks at that time, sixteen years ago, will be appreciated by studying the condition of educational, political and industrial affairs at the present time, in the year 1909. The introduction was as follows:

The tendency of the times for some years has been against the uniform development of the districts that constitute larger divisions of territory, as counties and States. Like the draining waters of creeks and rivers into the ocean without artificial impediments—as in the primeval period when mechanical power was not demanded—industries, wealth, and population have been drifting, or rather drained, toward great centers, such as Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis and San Francisco. It is even to be noticed in inland counties like Berks, Lebanon and Lehigh, for the county-seats are growing so rapidly that they are coming to have the major part of assessed property and population, notwithstanding the area of territory occupied is comparatively limited. Political and social influences are thereby developed in channels leading to personal distinction rather than general welfare. In this way too much power is permitted to settle gradually but surely in certain persons, and their individual judgment is taken as public opinion. This is against the substantial interests and prosperity of the people taken as an organized body.

General education and government have been carried on for many years by a prescribed system for the general advantage of all the inhabitants. The manifest design of this legislation was to build up the parts which constitute the whole, on the theory that if the several parts be recognized for intelligence and self government the whole must necessarily be distinguished in these respects. But with all our State and local appropriations for the purposes of education and government, many parts are found to be deteriorating, while only few are improving. This is particularly noticeable in respect to property, population and social influence; and in respect to individuality, co-operation, confidence and reliability, the average development is not what we have a right to expect in return for the taxes levied and expenditures made. Electors contribute their share of the taxes to enable the several parts or districts to be successfully maintained and developed, but the substantial and uniform local benefits for which the taxes are assented to without complaint are not realized.

Steam and electricity have latterly become so important in the development of industry for the superfluities of life, and capital and speculation have concentrated so largely in metropolitan places, from which they exert a most extraordinary influence over the manners, customs and desires of society, reaching out hundreds if not thousands of miles, that little hope can be entertained of effecting a change by the discussion of local rights in the interior parts of Pennsylvania along the mountains. I mean such a change as would give to labor a due proportion of its products in the districts where it is carried on.

The waters rise not in the mountains simply to flow on to the sea without advantage to the people as they pass, nor are men and women intended to establish domestic relations in the interior parts of the country simply to permit their offspring to be drawn away to swell the population of great cities, nor are they expected to work and practice rigid economy simply to give the real benefits to financiers and speculators far removed from the seat of industry; but they are designed to serve a more direct purpose in the affairs of mankind. The nat-

ural results would be more advantageous to the locality if they were not commonly and persistently drawn away by selfish manipulations. A true conception of local rights would greatly modify these manipulations in such a manner as to encourage plans and schemes of distribution that would produce a uniform appreciation and development of the general rights, privileges and conveniences of the people. Circumstances, sometimes accidental, but mostly the result of deliberation, may enable a man or body of men to take an unfair advantage over others, whether as neighbors of the same locality, or as fellow citizens of adjoining or distant localities, but in the short span of a life-time this advantage will be found to result eventually in a disadvantage of some kind, either of a personal or general nature.

Our education being intended for social elevation, and our government for political equality, the former should incline us to be just and fraternal, and the latter in all its departments to be impartial, whatsoever the situation of the several localities. But my historical researches, with a collection of statistics, have brought me to see an opposite social and political tendency; and believing it to be injurious to the general welfare, I was led to study the career of CONRAD WEISER, a most zealous advocate of local rights, and to present the result of my reflections to the people in the form of a lecture, with the hope that thereby public attention would be directed to the rights and demands of the respective parts of Berks county, and that this tendency might be changed in the interest of practical not theoretical political equality, of general not individual industrial power, and of real not imaginary social progress.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.—An institute, composed of many of the school teachers of the county, was first held in March, 1851, in the Court-House at Reading, for the purpose of encouraging the general work of education by a discussion of improved methods of teaching, an organization having been effected in January preceding. The meeting was largely attended, and it was very successful. Institutes were held for several years in succession and then discontinued.

In 1867, the State Legislature passed an Act of Assembly requiring the county superintendent of common schools "to call upon and invite the teachers of the common schools and other institutions of learning in his county to assemble together and organize themselves into a teachers' institute, to be devoted to the improvement of teachers in the science and art of education, and to continue in session for at least five days." In conformity with the provisions of this law, the county superintendent, Prof. John S. Ermentrout, held a county institute in 1868, at Reading. It was largely attended by teachers from all sections of the county, and great interest was manifested. Since that time, annual institutes have been held with increasing attendance and success.

In 1869, when Prof. D. B. Brunner became county superintendent, he inaugurated the system of local institutes, and during that year he held eight institutes in different sections of the county which proved very successful. This enabled the teachers in remote districts to attend an institute and become familiar with its proceedings, and also to take a part in its discussions, an opportunity being afforded and an inclination to do so being encouraged. This latter feature was particularly

appreciable, for in a local institute the teachers were thoroughly acquainted with one another, and, not being so numerous, they were enabled to participate practically in its discussions. Each succeeding year till now has shown an ever-increasing interest in them.

The Pennsylvania State Educational Association was first organized in 1856. Three of its conventions were held at Reading; in 1863, in 1878, and in 1905.

PAY SCHOOLS.—Various pay schools were conducted in the county, out of the limits of Reading, before the establishment of the compulsory system and afterward for many years, more especially in Union and Oley townships, and at Boyertown, Kutztown and Womelsdorf. But they have all been discontinued excepting the Keystone State Normal School which is described in connection with Kutztown.

NEWSPAPERS

There was no newspaper published in the county before 1789. News was communicated by persons to one another mostly at inns and stores, of which the number was large in proportion to the population, more especially at Reading. The latest accident, death, transaction or crookedness of any kind was communicated from one to the other, or to small groups of persons; and so it was carried from building to building and from place to place, not in the English language (for English was little spoken then by those who assembled at inns) but German, which was used almost entirely throughout the county in the daily affairs of life, both secular and religious.

During this early period, the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, published at Philadelphia, had a limited circulation in Reading and in the county. It was an interesting messenger to the people; and its weekly arrival must have been an event of more than ordinary importance. A copy was doubtless busy in passing amongst persons who could read English—not for the personal matters which it contained, but for foreign affairs, market reports, letters published, etc. Christopher Sauer's *Journal*, a newspaper printed in German, and published at Germantown, had a more extended circulation in this vicinity, and it exercised a large influence over the residents.

Forty years in the history of Reading elapsed before the newspaper became a local institution. The entire period of its local life as a town, with all its many important events, passed away without having it introduced. This would seem to be a long while for such a factor to obtain a foothold in a community otherwise energetic and progressive; but this delay is capable of explanation. The people were interested in home rather than in foreign affairs, and strove to give them successful development. Local matters required no printed publication, for, the town being small and the population limited, they were easily communicated. But as the town grew into a borough, and especially as the

borough grew into a city, with its territory enlarged, the inhabitants more widely scattered and the population largely increased, the natural way became more and more incapable of satisfying the inquisitiveness of the people and an artificial way had to be introduced—and this was supplied by the newspaper.

After the lapse of a century, general progress came to be so wonderful, the people so numerous and scattered, and their relations so intermingled, that, just as the natural way had to yield to the artificial, so did the old and slow process of printing on a hand-press, with its limited capacity, have to make way for the new and spirited process, by a steam-press, with its unlimited capacity. In the beginning, the newspaper was weak in every respect, small in size, limited in circulation, uncertain in financial support, and wanting in mental vigor and originality; but afterward it became strong, rich, energetic and inventive.

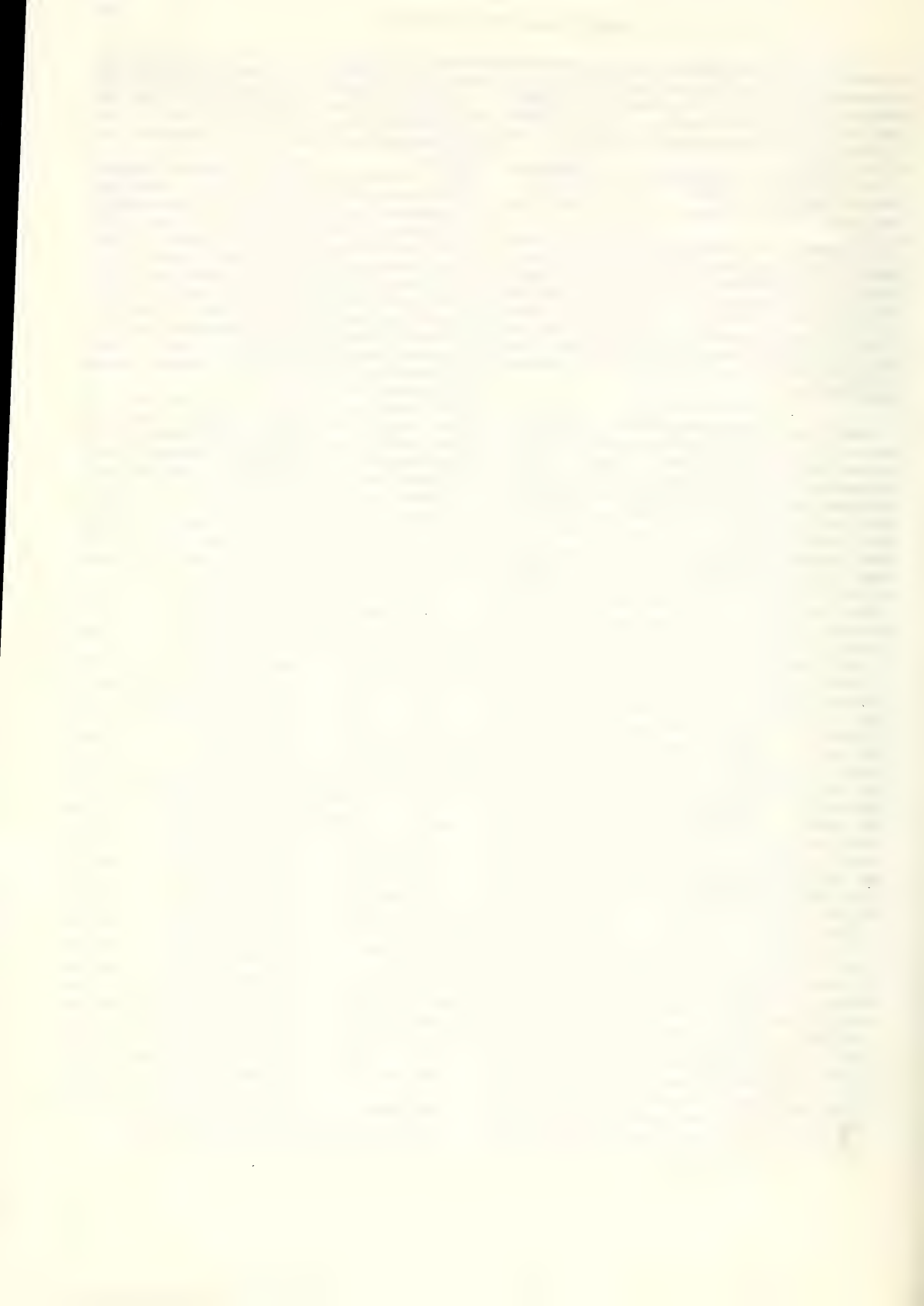
The newspapers of the county comprise two classes, weekly and daily. Some of them were printed in the German language, but most of them in the English. The following statement shows the names of the several newspapers instituted at Reading and in the county; also the names of the founders, the time when instituted, and the duration of the publication. Though published almost entirely at Reading, they have been placed in this chapter on account of their general circulation throughout the county and elsewhere.

WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS AT READING.

Name	Founder	Year
<i>Neue Unpartheyische</i>	Johnson, Barton	1789-1793
<i>Readinger Zeitung</i>	& Jungmann	1789-1793
<i>Weekly Advertiser</i>	Gottlob Jungmann	1796-1816
<i>Reading Herald</i>	Jacob Schneider and George Gerrish	1796-1796
<i>Readinger Adler</i> *	Jacob Schneider and George Gerrish	1796-1909
<i>Welt Bothe</i>	Henry B. Sage	1810
<i>Berks and Schuylkill</i> **		
<i>Journal</i>	George Getz	1816-1909
<i>Readinger Post Bote</i>	Charles A. Bruckman	1816-1826
<i>Chronicle of the Times</i>	Samuel Myers and Douglass W. Hyde	1822-1836
<i>Jackson Democrat</i>	Charles J. Jack	1826-1826
<i>Readinger Democrat</i>	Jeremiah Schneider and Samuel Myers	1826-1835
<i>Berks County Press</i>	Samuel Myers	1835-1865
<i>Jefferson Democrat</i>	Robert W. Albright	1838-1848
<i>Liberale Beobachter</i>	Arnold Puwelle	1839-1865
<i>Reading Gazette and Democrat</i>	Jacob Knabb and J. Lawrence Getz	1840-1878
<i>Alt Berks</i>	William B. Schoener	1840-1845
<i>Sonne von Alt Berks</i>	Charles W. Guenther	1845-1848
<i>Reading Herald</i>	Abraham S. Whitman	1846-1850
<i>People's Advocate</i>	A. S. Whitman and Joseph E. Berret	1850-1852
<i>Berks County Democrat</i>	Samuel L. Young and Andrew M. Sallade	1858-1858
<i>School Album</i>	James Millholland and Albert R. Durham	1858-1859

* Ritter family connected with publication since 1802.

** Owned by publishers of *Reading Times* since 1866.



<i>Weekly Leader</i>	J. Robley Dungleison.....	1860-1861
<i>Reformirter Hausfreund</i> Daniel Miller.....		1867-1904
<i>Banner von Berks</i>	William Rosenthal*.....	1864-1909
<i>Die Bienen</i>	William Rosenthal*.....	1867-1909
<i>Die Deutsche Eiche</i>	William Rosenthal*.....	1869-1909
<i>Republikaner von Berks</i> Daniel Miller.....		1869-1899
<i>Spirit of Berks</i>	Daniel S. Francis.....	1876-1881
<i>Reading Weekly Eagle</i> Jesse G. Hawley.....		1878-1909
<i>Reading Weekly Herald</i> John B. Dampman.....		1881-1896
<i>Reading Weekly News</i> William S. Ritter.....		1881-1909
<i>Reformed Church Rec'd</i> P. Bausman.....		1888-1905
<i>Reading Democrat</i>	W. Oscar Miller.....	1894-1899
<i>Labor Advocate</i>	Harry F. De Gour.....	1900-1909
<i>Union Sentinel</i>	Federated Trades Council.....	1901-1909

MONTHLY NEWSPAPERS

Name	Founder	Year
<i>Literatur Blatt</i>	August Bendel.....	1883-1906
<i>Illustrirte Jugendblätter</i> August Bendel.....		1884-1909
<i>Pennsylvania Philatelist</i> Clifford N. Kissinger.....		1891-1903
<i>Greater Reading</i>	Walter S. Hamaker.....	1897-1898
<i>Greater America</i>	Walter S. Hamaker.....	1898-1903
<i>Preacher's Assistant</i>	Frank J. Boyer.....	1889-1909

Mengel & Mengel have issued a *Real Estate Register* monthly since January, 1895, relating to the conditions of real estate at Reading and vicinity.

WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS AT BOROUGHES

KUTZTOWN

Name	Founder	Year
<i>Neutralist</i>	William Harmony.....	1833-1841
<i>Geist der Zeit</i>	Hawrecht & Wink.....	1841-1863
<i>Der Hirt</i>	J. S. Herman.....	1854-1856
<i>Kutztown Journal</i>	Isaac F. Christ.....	1870-1909
<i>National Educator</i>	Isaac F. Christ.....	1872—
<i>American Patriot</i>	Isaac F. Christ.....	1874-1909

HAMBURG

Name	Founder	Year
<i>Hamburg Schnellpost</i>	John Scheifly and } William Schubert }	1841-1905
<i>Hamburg Advertiser</i>	M. H. Snollenberger.....	1865-1868
<i>Rural Press</i>	J. K. & J. G. Smith.....	1872-1875
<i>Hamburger Berichte</i>	William F. Tyson.....	1872-1874
<i>Hamburg Weekly Item</i>	Samuel A. Focht.....	1875-1909

BOYERTOWN

Name	Founder	Year
<i>Boyletown Bauer</i>	O. P. Zink.....	1858-1868
<i>Boyletown Democrat</i>	George Sassaman.....	1868-1909

WOMELSDORF

Name	Founder	Year
<i>Womelsdorf Gazette</i>	Samuel Mowry.....	1847-1818
<i>Womelsdorf Herald</i>	Michael K. Boyer.....	1879-1880
<i>Womelsdorf News</i>	Joel Weidman.....	1882-1885

BIRDSBORO

Name	Founder	Year
<i>Birdsboro Pioneer</i>	B. E. Fries.....	1873-1876
<i>Birdsboro Dispatch</i>	Rapp & Ryan.....	1885-1909
<i>Birdsboro Review</i>	Harry E. Hart.....	1893-1908

DAILY NEWSPAPERS.—Weekly newspaper publications were carried on at Reading for over sixty years before a daily was thought of, at least before a public proposition to this end was made. Many weeklies had been instituted in that time; but they all suspended excepting two, and these two are

*John Weiler, an employer and manager for many years, became the proprietor June 20, 1908.

worthy of especial mention for their energy, success and longevity—the *Adler* and the *Journal*—the former a German publication founded in 1796, and the latter an English publication founded in 1816, which is strictly a continuation of the *Weekly Advertiser*, started also in 1796. The population was certainly here to support a daily newspaper. The rapid increase of the people would seem to have warranted—if it did not inspire—such an enterprise in that period of time. Education was quite general, though stimulated with marked public energy after 1834; and the English language was growing gradually into favor. The railroad was constructed, various shops and factories, especially for the manufacture of iron goods, were erected; even English churches were founded.

The second period of Reading was unusually prolific in producing great things for the common progress of its citizens. In 1840 the population was 8,410, and in 1847 it was about 12,000; and in the respective years named the entire county had about 65,000 and 70,000. The railroad extended through the entire Schuylkill Valley to the north and to the south, and the stages ran daily in every direction. These means facilitated the distribution of newspapers, and encouraged the spirit of publication; and the borough was advanced into a city. Still there was no daily newspaper.

When the third period was begun there were seven weekly newspapers carried on successfully, *Adler*, *Journal*, *Berks County Press*, *Liberale Beobachter*, *Alt Berks*, *Jefferson Democrat* and *Reading Gazette*. They were issued upon different days in the week, but mostly on Saturday. Naturally, this number was sufficient to discourage the thought of a daily publication. But the spirit of enterprise was working its way through the people in different channels; buildings were multiplying, trade was growing, population was increasing, and many strangers were locating here permanently. The daily events necessarily grew with the general growth, and the disposition to know them at once was preparing the way for a step beyond the weekly publication, and just as the stage-coach and canal-boat, through the energy of trading, came to be slow and had to make way for the steam-car, so the weekly newspaper was coming to be late in communicating news, the feeling against the delay was growing stronger and stronger, public eagerness clamoring for an improvement.

Three months after Reading was incorporated as a city, Abraham S. Whitman—a practical young printer of Reading—took the first step beyond a weekly publication by instituting and carrying on a tri-weekly newspaper, which he entitled *The Reading Herald*, and within two months he enlarged its size and improved its appearance. But he soon found that he had stepped beyond his time, and was therefore compelled to issue the publication as a weekly newspaper.

About the same time, J. Lawrence Getz, publisher of the *Reading Gazette* (weekly), made the editorial announcement that he would undertake the publication of a daily newspaper, if supported; but the support was so limited that he was forced to discontinue after an earnest trial of nine days.

These first efforts were in 1847. Ten years elapsed. In that time two new railroads were extended from this business center, one to the west through Lebanon Valley, the other to the northeast through East Penn Valley. From 12,000 the population of the city had increased to 20,000, and from 70,000 the population of the county had increased to 90,000. The post-offices round about in the county had multiplied from forty-one to seventy—a wonderful increase in this department of the public service. The added wealth to the community from all sources was estimated not by the thousands of dollars, but by the millions, and the hand-press for newspapers had become supplanted by the steam-press. Mr. Getz doubtless reasoned in this manner in 1857, and, satisfying himself that the prospects were favorable, he started in this enterprise a second time. He continued the publication successfully, though under discouraging patronage, until Feb. 3, 1858, when he changed the time of its issue to the evening, and reduced the price from ten cents a week to six cents.

His second experiment was, however, carried on for only three weeks, and he was again compelled to suspend publication. The *Berks and Schuylkill Journal* complimented his spirit and enterprise, but expressed the opinion that the suspension was by no means creditable either to the intelligence or to the public spirit of a city with 20,000 inhabitants. Its list of patrons embraced four hundred and fifty regular subscribers; but only sixteen out of two hundred and forty business men of Reading took sufficient interest in its success to give it advertising patronage.

Immediately after the suspension of the *Gazette*, a stronger feeling for a daily newspaper manifested itself by the citizens and so a third attempt was made. This was by J. Robley Dunglison, a young man from Philadelphia, who had settled at Reading about that time. He issued the first number of his paper on July 19, 1858, which was entitled *Reading Daily Times*. It was a folio, printed in the English language, 16 by 24 inches, with five columns to the page, and issued in the morning. He published it until Dec. 9, 1859, when he sold it to Henry Lantz. Lantz published it until September, 1861, when (owing to his enlistment in the Civil war) he sold the paper to A. S. Whitman and Charles F. Hause, who published it very successfully during the Civil war. In 1865, F. B. Shalters became interested, and in 1868 the sole owner and editor. In 1869, the paper was purchased by J. Knabb & Co., the publishers of the *Berks and Schuylkill Journal*, and this firm and its succes-

sor, the Reading Times Publishing Company, have published it ever since.

The *Evening Dispatch* was issued as an evening daily paper from Feb. 10, 1866, until April 4, 1870, when it was purchased by J. Knabb & Co. and merged with the *Reading Times*, and Alfred S. Jones had started the *Daily Reporter* on April 26, 1864, and issued it for nearly a year.

The *Daily Eagle* was founded by William S. Ritter and Jesse G. Hawley (publishers of the *Reading Adler*), on Jan. 28, 1868. In 1874, Hawley purchased the entire interest, and published the paper until his decease in 1903. By his great enterprise he enlarged its circulation very much and distributed its issue not only into every town and township of the county, but into neighboring and distant counties in the Schuylkill, East Penn and Lebanon Valleys. Since his decease, its publication has been continued with equal and deserved success by his estate.

The first daily German newspaper at Reading was founded by William Rosenthal on June 1, 1868, under the title of *Die Readinger Post*, and he issued it successfully until 1908, when he sold it to John Weiler.

The *Daily News* was issued by William S. Ritter (proprietor of the *Adler*) from May, 1880, until May, 1886.

The *Daily Spirit of Berks* was started by Daniel S. Francis on Aug. 6, 1881, and published by him until November following, when he sold the daily and the weekly issue of this paper to John B. Darnpman and A. C. Buckwalter, who then changed the names to the *Daily Herald* and *Weekly Herald*. William McCormick became the purchaser in the fall of 1896 and discontinued the *Weekly* paper, but has issued the *Daily* since. During the Spanish war in 1898 he published a morning and evening issue of the daily, but discontinued the morning issue at the close of this war.

The *Reading Telegram*, a daily, owned by the Reading Telegram Publishing Company, has been issued since 1887.

Other daily newspapers were started at Reading and issued for various periods, but not beyond several years, such as the *Daily Leader*, *Evening Star*, *Evening Record*, *Daily People*, *Daily Graphic*, *Evening Review*, and *Evening World*.

LANGUAGE, MANNERS AND CUSTOMS

LANGUAGE.—The great majority of the early settlers of Berks county were Germans, and through them their language, manners and customs became predominant. Most of them remained here, and, to a great degree, where the several families first settled and prospered. Their number influenced the early erection of the county in 1752. Their industry, perseverance and economy built up and enriched its valleys and hills with substantial improvements. Nearly two hundred years have elapsed since, but the general features of the whole community bear their impression. Their manners



and customs have been handed down from generation to generation, with little change; and their language is still in general use in every section. This permanence exhibits inherent strength. The introduction of other peoples, with different languages, but mostly English, have not weakened their hold upon the people.

Their language is composed of words principally from German dialects, such as the Allemannisch, the Pfälzisch, and the Schwabisch, and some from the German proper. Its preservation to such a marked degree is due mostly to their German Bible. Martin Luther performed a great service to one of the strongest and most prolific nations of the earth in translating the Latin Bible into the German, for through it he made the use of the German language here persistent and continuous. Their German hymn-books and prayer-books, and Arndt's *Wahren Christenthum* (True Christianity) assisted greatly in this behalf.

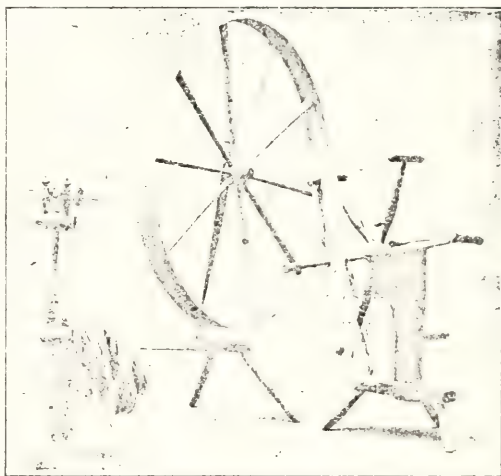
The use of the English language in courts of justice, and in legal documents of all kinds, did not, and apparently could not, interfere with its preservation. Even English teaching, through a general system of school education, has not disturbed it very much, though two generations have passed away since its introduction. This system has caused the introduction of numerous English, mixed and contracted words, and doubtless induced the language to be called "Pennsylvania German"—or "Pennsylvania Dutch." These remarks are particularly applicable to the country districts, for the teachers are mostly young people, who, in many instances, are not qualified to use the English language accurately. Through them many peculiar and incorrect expressions have been engrafted upon the language of our locality; and the German people themselves have occasioned the introduction of a considerable number, through an earnest desire to succeed in their business relations with the citizens of Reading. The sounds, expressions and intonations are peculiar and cannot be communicated in a published narrative.

The Pennsylvania-German language has been presented admirably in a number of poems which Thomas C. Zimmermann translated from the English, he having selected a variety of styles of composition in order to show the capabilities of the dialect for metrical expression. This variety comprehends subjects both grave and gay, as well as humorous and pathetic. His first translation was the Christmas poem by Clement C. Moore entitled, "Twas the Night before Christmas."

Harbaugh's "Harfe," and Fischer's "Pennsylvanisch-Deutsche Gedichte" and "Kurzweil und Zeitvertreib," are publications in the Pennsylvania-German which are worthy of especial mention. They contain numerous interesting poems in this dialect, and introduce in a superior style the notions, manners and customs of the German people in Berks county.

The English language, both written and spoken, has been in use from the time of the earliest settlements by the English in the county, and it is natural to suppose that in all these years through judicial proceedings, business transactions and general education, it should have made considerable progress, especially during the last fifty years; but frequent visits to churches and schools, stores and families throughout the county in this time enable the compiler to say that the German language is still prominent in the country districts. Another generation will have to pass away before the English language can take its place.

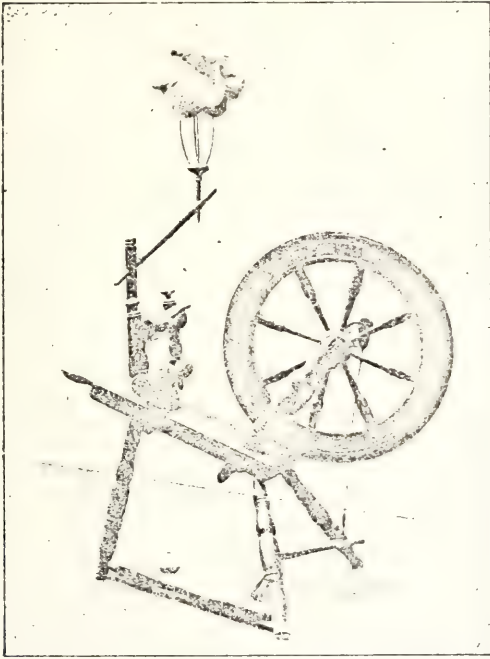
The circulation of English newspapers is increasing gradually; but their total circulation is small compared with our population. They are a strong agency in effecting a change from the German to the English; in reality, they are a stronger agency in this respect than the common schools. This is particularly apparent in Reading. Before the daily English newspaper was established here, the German language was commonly used by the major part of its inhabitants in their daily affairs; but now the English has its place, and principally through the gradual introduction of the newspaper. The increasing convenience of distribution facilitates its growth. The national government is contributing much aid by extending and increasing the postal facilities and the delivery of mail matter throughout the county.



WOOL-WHEEL

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.—The buildings and improvements throughout the county are mostly the result of German energy and thrift. Profits from labor have been almost entirely appropriated toward increasing the value of land rather than toward enlightenment. Fine barns, dwellings and fields are prominent in every locality. They are superior to those which existed in the previous century. This

is apparent in live stock, in the cultivation of fruit, in the possession of improved implements and machinery, besides a better class of dwellings and barns. A higher order of taste in the adornment of persons and places has made its way through increasing liberality.



SPINNING-WHEEL

Domestic habits, in respect to home-made articles, have changed. Spinning and weaving have been abandoned. The loom and the factory supply all the materials required. A change began to be made about 1840. Before that time, spinning was common everywhere in the county, for it was one of the necessary accomplishments of mothers and daughters. Till then, reels and spinning-wheels were sold at different stores in Reading. Sales then declined gradually, and within twenty years afterward there was no demand at all for these articles.

Gardening is still carried on successfully in the country districts. Besides supplying vegetables for family use, it is a source of profit to mothers and daughters, who dispose of a large proportion of garden products in the markets at Reading and the boroughs.

The almanac is a common guide to indicate by the changes of the moon the proper time for planting. The practice of consulting the moon's phases is regarded by many persons as a superstitious notion; but it still prevails. So fences are erected when the points of the moon are up; shingle roofs are nailed in position when the points are down;

and woods are cleared when the moon is full. But the custom is not so general as it was, especially in towns and cities, where building operations are conducted through all seasons; and walls, fences and roofs are placed in position regardless of the face of the moon.

A funeral in the country districts is still largely attended, especially the funeral of a citizen of prominence. The services are generally conducted in the German language in the church of which the deceased was a member, as well as at his home, briefly. Afterward the guests return to the house of mourning and participate in a large dinner. This custom has continued time out of mind. Great sociability is exhibited upon such an occasion. Friends travel miles to attend a funeral in order to show respect for the deceased. And the entire neighborhood is represented. The burials are generally made in the burying-ground adjoining a church. But the first settlers made burials in private grounds set apart on farms for this purpose. It was instituted as a matter of convenience; and then the funeral service was held at the house. The change of farm ownership caused this custom to be gradually abandoned. Seventy years ago, private cemeteries were still numerous; afterward church cemeteries began to be more encouraged and burials in them increased.

The country store was a great institution years ago. But its influence, trade and popularity are much reduced. This change was effected through the introduction of competing stage lines and the railway. Variety of goods and cheapness are considerations which induce the people to visit the towns and the county-seat for their purchases. It is noticeable that the railway is drawing the patronage of Reading to Philadelphia more and more; so that as our townships come to patronize Reading, Reading goes to patronize Philadelphia. This is apparent elsewhere—the cities attracting the trade of towns, and the towns that of the country districts. The trolley lines are particularly useful and influential in this behalf.

The country inn was also a popular place for many years. Frolics and dances were common everywhere years ago; and they were carried on successfully at the inn. The "fiddler" was an important person upon such occasions. And "Battalion Day" brought much profit to the inn that was near by the place where the military exercise was conducted.

Military affairs were active throughout the county from the close of the Revolution until the beginning of the Civil war, a period covering nearly eighty years. Companies of men were formed in every section, and battalions were drilled annually at the prominent towns, mostly at Reading, Kutztown, Hamburg, Rehrersburg, Womelsdorf, Boyertown and Morgantown. These exercises occasioned the day to be called "Battalion Day." They afforded the men much pleasure and a great change in their daily employment in the field, barn and work-

shop. Many sons of early families became quite prominent as military men.

The old "Conestoga wagon" is no longer seen passing over our highways. Seventy years ago it was in prominent use everywhere. Many were seen



FLAX-BRAKE

moving together in transporting great loads of wheat, and other products such as manufactured articles, whiskey, etc., to distant markets, especially to Philadelphia. Each one was drawn by four horses, sometimes by five and six; which attracted much attention, with jingling sweet-toned bells on the lead-horse of the team to indicate its movement on the way. Its capacity was from two thousand to three thousand pounds. It was covered with a strong canvas top. In returning, store goods of various kinds were brought along. After the opening of the railroad in 1838, this business of hauling in Conestoga wagons gradually ceased. Since then, the only considerable hauling by farmers is in conveying their grain, hay, etc., to the market at Reading; and this is done almost entirely in one wagon at a time.

In a "moving" by a farmer about April 1st, many teams are used to convey the whole stock, furniture, etc., in a day. The long train affords to a certain degree an idea how the Conestoga teams appeared.

The life of the farmer is comparatively little beyond hard, earnest labor and rigid economy throughout each succeeding year. His daily reflection is upon his stock and crops. All the improved implements and labor-saving machinery are devised and introduced by others for his benefit. He would have continued in the same manner of conducting his farming operations practised from 1700 to 1800, and even till 1850, if inventive genius had not created new methods for him. The farmer of our own county has not produced anything to improve his situation in respect to labor. He adopts what is brought to him. This singular inactivity keeps him back of the advancing times. Through it, the products of his labor are permitted to be drained to populous places. One of the chief consequences is little remuneration. The men of

thought and energy in cities absorb the greater portion of the profits. If his daily habits were not simple and his expenses small, he could not keep what he has, much less accumulate more. His net income from actual labor is limited. Compared with the incomes of business men, agents, officers of corporations and clerks in cities, it is insignificant. His manners are the same in this respect as in others. If we examine them closely and compare them with the condition of things one hundred years ago, we find little progress. His household furniture, bedding, clothing, tableware, social habits and general customs are generally the same. His walls are not decorated with costly paintings; his floors are not covered with fine, soft carpets; his beds are not composed of easy springs and hair or wire mattresses; his table does not glisten with polished silver or sparkle with cut glass; his dwelling is not after the modern style, with arrangements for health and convenience; and he himself is not a patron of art, literature or amusements. In towns and cities, however, we find all these things, not only in the dwellings of bankers, lawyers and merchants, but also of industrious mechanics, agents and clerks; and art, literature and various amusements are largely patronized and encouraged.

This great difference is caused by the spirit of progress, which obtains more in populous places where the people are led in numerous ways to intermingle daily with one another. Association creates the laudable ambition to develop improvements in the various departments of domestic and social life; and it relieves the monotony of daily labor by literary, musical and dramatic amusements. In carrying on its amusements successfully, it is converting night more and more into day and devising new methods for social pleasure and excitement. Improved light facilitates and encourages it in the night-time.

Traveling is a great agency in stimulating it. Indeed, in certain respects, it is like steam on the one hand and electricity on the other—active and energetic in moving about from place to place, and brilliant and powerful in providing the necessary light to accommodate its conceptions. Horsepower, and locomotion afforded by this means, may suffice for the people in the country districts, but steam and railroads afford locomotion which is not too rapid for the people in the towns and cities.

Restless energy is introducing wonderful changes in the manners and customs of the people. In the mountainous and farming districts, where distance still separates many inhabitants and the means for rapid intermingling are impracticable, the changes are imperceptible. Their situation does not warrant changes, especially such as are constantly going on in the cities, for it could not support them. The profits of labor and investment in them are too slow and too small. Hence their manners and customs, their dwellings and churches, their roads and movements, their speech and actions, their dress and associations, are the same or nearly the same as

they were a hundred years ago. Their energy is inseparable from the plow and the hoe and muscular exertion. But the cities produce and support these changes, and in them energy partakes more of the mind than of the body. And these changes, and this mental energy, are more active amongst their inhabitants.

In comparing the situation of the people of Albany and Caernarvon townships, districts located at the extreme northern and southern ends of the county, thirty miles apart; also of Hereford and Bethel townships, districts located at the extreme eastern and western ends, forty miles apart, with the situation of the people of Reading, the county-seat, the difference is apparent at a glance. One hundred years ago they were alike, or nearly so. But just as Reading is in advance of the districts mentioned, so is New York, the great metropolis of our vast country, in advance of Reading.

By contrasting the two extremes, our mountainous districts with the great metropolis, the difference in the manners and customs of the respective inhabitants is truly wonderful. And yet the forefathers of each, as immigrants, started alike. In the one, oil and tallow are still used, and even the

open fireplace for the production of light in a simple and inexpensive way; in the other, these have long passed away, especially for public purposes, and the people have light from electricity. In the one, thousands of inhabitants are scattered over miles of territory, but in the other thousands are concentrated upon a few acres, if not in a few very large buildings. In the one, a few hundred dollars suffice to make the inhabitants contented and happy; but in the other, millions of dollars are invested and expended to carry out successfully the manners and customs of its inhabitants and such changes as ambition, competition and rivalry produce.

Contentment would seem to be the companion of slowness, if not of stillness; but discontentment, of energy and activity. In the one, the expense of a few extra dollars in travel or amusement is looked upon as luxury, if not extravagance; but in the other, thousands of dollars are expended as a matter of necessity for the same purpose. These strong contrasts enable us to see our own manners and customs as they are or were or as they will be, more especially in the more populous places, the nearer that steam and electricity come to be connected with us in our material progress.

CHAPTER IV—GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIALS

ELECTION DISTRICTS

Provision was made for free and voluntary elections by William Penn in the laws agreed upon in England in 1682, for the government of Pennsylvania and the right of election was given to every freeman of the province. A freeman was defined to be "every inhabitant that is or shall be a purchaser of one hundred acres of land or upward; and every person who shall have paid his passage and taken up one hundred acres of land at one penny an acre, and have cultivated ten acres thereof; and every person that hath been a servant or bondsman and is free by his service, that shall have taken up fifty acres of land and cultivated twenty thereof; and every inhabitant, artificer, or other resident that pays scot or lot to the government."

At that time, the territory comprising Berks county was occupied by Indians. Not a single white man had yet settled upon it. There was no need for election laws then, nor for districts to facilitate elections. But in one hundred years afterward, many permanent settlers had entered the territory, and the necessity for government in all its forms had become apparent. Townships had been organized and the county had become erected with all its offices in that interval of time. Independence had been declared; government established; and elections of various local officers held.

The elections for county officials were held at Reading from the beginning of the county in 1752

till 1789. During this time the county comprised one election district; and all elections were directed to be held at the Court-House, in the county-town. Then the county was divided into five election districts, and the electors of the several townships were required to vote at the places named:

Reading, 1st District, at the Court-House.

Reading	Exeter
Alsace	Heidelberg
Bern	Maiden-creek
Brecknock	Oley
Caernarvon	Robeson
Cumru	Ruscombmanor

Kutztown, 2d District, at public house of Philip Gehr

Greenwich	Maxatawny
Hereford	Richmond
Longswamp	Rockland

Hamburg, 3d District, at public house of John Moyer

Albany	Brunswick
Bern, Upper	Windsor

Tulpehocken, 4th District at public house of Godfrey Roehrer

Bethel	Tulpehocken
Pine-Grove	

Amity, 5th District, at public house of Wm. Witman—called "White Horse"

Amity	Earl
Colebrookdale	Union
Douglass	



There were then twenty-nine townships and one borough, Reading. In the performance of this political duty many electors traveled a distance of fifteen miles. But this was an improvement on what had been required four years before—those living in the townships farthest removed from Reading having been required to travel from twenty-five to thirty miles.

Subsequently, until now, additional districts have been established to facilitate elections. As a matter of historical interest they are presented in the order of priority; in the subdivisions of the county (as made in Chapter I).

Manatawny Section

Muthart's, 1794—comprising Colebrookdale, District Earl and Hereford.

Hereford, 1811.

Keely's, 1812—comprising Douglass, Amity, Colebrookdale and Earl.

Oley, 1814.

Ruscombmanor, 1815.

Rockland, 1816.

Pike, 1816.

Earl, 1817.

Reading, two wards, 1817.

District, 1818.

Amity, 1822.

Douglass, 1824.

Colebrookdale, 1827.

Exeter, 1830.

Alsace, 1840.

Washington, 1840.

Reading, 1840, four wards; 1844, fifth ward.

Muhlenberg, 1850.

Boyetown, 1866.

Reading, 1864, nine wards; 1875, eleven wards; 1885, thirteen wards; 1892, fifteen wards; 1894, sixteen wards.

Alsace, Lower, 1888.

Mt. Penn, 1904.

Ontelaunee Section

Croll's 1799—comprising Albany and Greenwich.

Maiden-creek, 1817.

Longswamp, 1817.

Albany, 1819.

Perry, 1821.

Richmond, 1823.

Greenwich, 1827.

Windsor, 1830 (at Hamburg).

Hamburg, 1837.

Maxatawny and Kutztown, 1841.

Ontelaunee, 1850.

Fleetwood, 1873.

Topton, 1877.

Lenhartsville, 1887.

Tulpehocken Section

Womelsdorf, 1797—comprising Bethel, Tulphocken and Heidelberg.

Bethel, 1803.

Tulpehocken, 1809.

Shurtle's, 1812—comprising Upper Bern and Upper Tulpehocken.

Bern, Upper, 1822.

Tulpehocken, Upper, 1829.

Bernville, 1829.

Heidelberg, Lower, 1834.

Heidelberg, 1839.

Bern, 1840.

Penn, 1842.

Centre, 1843.

Marion, 1843.

Heidelberg, North, 1845.

Jefferson, 1851.

Centreport, 1884.

Tilden, 1887.

West Leesport, 1901.

Schuylkill Section

Forest, 1791—comprising then Caernarvon, Robeson and Union.

Marquart's, 1798—comprising same townships with Brecknock added.

Caernarvon, 1818.

Union, 1829.

Robeson, 1829.

Brecknock, 1829.

Cumru, 1840 (at Reading).

Spring, 1850.

Birdsboro, 1872.

Wyomissing, 1906.

West Reading, 1907.

Mohnton, 1907.

Shillington, 1908.

Section beyond the Mountain

Pine-Grove, 1797—comprising all north of the Blue Mountain.

Orwigsburg, 1798—comprising Brunswick and Manheim.

Mahantango, 1802—comprising that township.

The election districts in the county now (1909) comprise 16 wards of Reading, 2 wards of Birdsboro and 2 of Hamburg; 15 boroughs, and 43 townships, altogether 78.

PROMINENT REPRESENTATIVE MEN

Before 1820, it would seem that the major part of the voters of the county did not show so strong a partisan spirit in reference to the election of their representatives to Congress as they did afterward. Joseph Hiester was a very popular man with his constituents, and he maintained their confidence and political support through a period embracing thirty years, notwithstanding his identification with the Federal party and the publication of certain letters in local newspapers reflecting against his political character. He succeeded in accomplishing what no other man in the history of the county has been able to do; for, besides securing his repeated election to Congress on the ticket of the minority party, he even influenced the suffrage of the Democrats in the county in his own behalf against their own regular nominee for Governor to such an extent as to be elevated to the highest executive office of the State.

During the period from 1829 to 1844, Rev. Henry A. Muhlenberg (the son-in-law of Hiester) was the most prominent political representative. By a reelection to Congress for five consecutive terms he evinced much popularity. In 1835, he received the nomination of the Democratic party for Governor; but he was not elected, owing to the action of an independent element in the party which was led by Governor Wolf, the incumbent then in the executive office and concluding his second term.

At that time, the Anti-Mason party was strong in the State, and, through the division of the Democratic party, it was enabled to elect its candidate, Joseph Ritner. Muhlenberg polled the largest vote of the three candidates in the county.

Several years afterward, President Van Buren appointed Muhlenberg to be the first minister to Austria, and, upon accepting this distinguished appointment, he resigned his seat in Congress. This was the first honor conferred by a President of the United States upon the county of Berks, and the people appreciated it highly. In 1844, Muhlenberg again became the regular nominee for Governor on the Democratic ticket, but he died before the election.

There was a great difference between Hiester and Muhlenberg; the former was a Federalist in a Democratic county, successful in winning and holding a strong political support for himself, and a staunch advocate of a protective tariff, of the free school system, and of the United States Bank (of which it is probable that he was one of the original subscribers of stock); but the latter was a Democrat, and opposed to the measures mentioned.

Twenty years after Muhlenberg's time in Congress, the first considerable dissatisfaction arose in the Democratic party in the county, which resulted in the defeat of Hon. J. Glancy Jones, the regular nominee. He had been the representative from this district since 1851, and while serving his fourth term announced his candidacy for re-election. But a great political change was then working its way amongst the people throughout Pennsylvania, and to a certain extent this change was manifesting itself also in Berks county. It was created principally by the action of Buchanan's administration on the Kansas question, and Jones—one of Buchanan's ablest supporters—having been intimately associated with it, the leaders of the opposition naturally took advantage of the situation to extend their feeling into the county so as to operate against him.

Though Jones had made the nomination before the County Convention almost by acclamation, immediately afterward certain influential Democrats of the county developed sufficient strength against him to be able to call another convention and express opposition to his re-election—the principal ground being his course on the subject of the tariff. The Independent Democrats therefore nominated John Schwartz—a prominent ironmaster of large ability and experience, and a highly respected survivor of the war of 1812-15.

The Republicans united in supporting Schwartz, and this co-operation caused the defeat of Jones by a small majority—the first real defeat which the Democrats had met with in the history of the party in the county.

The defeat of Jones was both a surprise and a disappointment to President Buchanan, and immediately after hearing it he appointed Jones to the Austrian Mission. Jones accepted this appointment and thereupon resigned his seat in Congress. He

represented the national government at Vienna for two years with great distinction.

But the political activity in the campaign of 1858 was not permitted to subside with the defeat of Jones. His resignation having caused a vacancy which the electors were obliged to fill the Democrats nominated Joel B. Wanner, Esq. (who had, two years before, served a term as mayor of Reading), and the Republicans nominated General William H. Keim, a man highly respected for his business qualifications and very popular throughout the county in military affairs. A special election was held in November, 1858, but the vote was small, especially for the Democratic candidate, and Keim was elected.

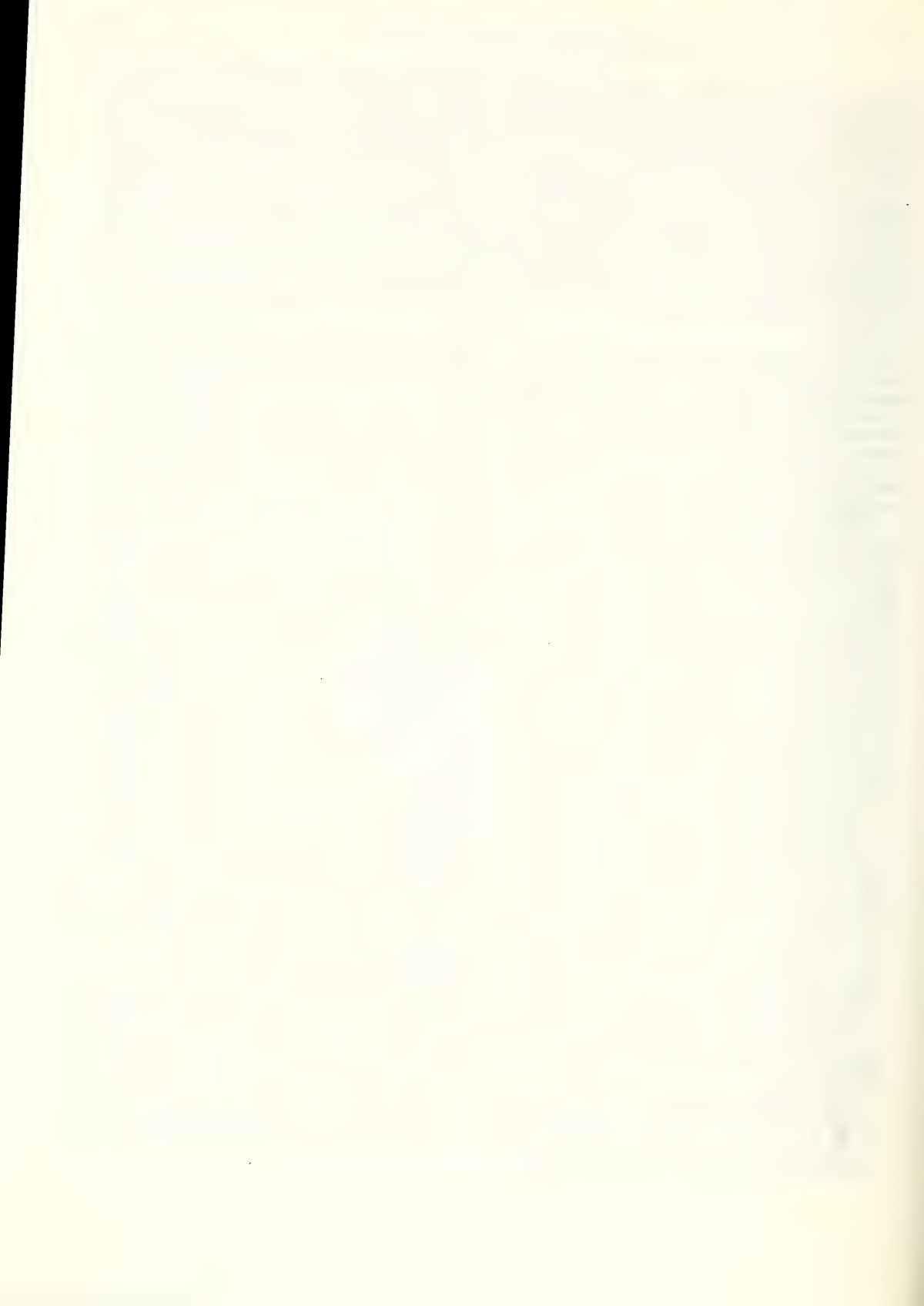
Previously, on two occasions, in respect to county offices, a similar result had occurred. In 1846, David Yoder, a prominent and influential farmer of Oley and a descendant of one of the first families in that township, was elected, as a Whig, to the office of county commissioner, because the nominee on the Democratic ticket was alleged to have been an Irishman, the Irish as a class not being particularly appreciated by the German element in the county. And in 1853, Charles Van Reed, also a prominent farmer and paper manufacturer of Lower Heidelberg township, was elected as a Whig to the office of county treasurer. The nominee on the Democratic ticket was Adam Leize, who had held the office from 1849 to 1851. The incumbent during the election was William Ermentrout, whose son was married to Leize's daughter. Many Democrats thought that one family was obtaining too much political preferment and therefore they opposed the election of Leize.

Between 1789 and 1820, Daniel Messersmith and John K. Messersmith had continued to hold the office of treasurer alternately for a period of thirty years; David Bright from 1823 to 1835; and Peter Nagle from 1835 to 1843. The office was filled by appointment until 1841, when it became elective.

In 1841, the Hon. John Banks (then the president judge of the county) was the nominee of the Whig party for Governor. The Democratic party was at that time under thorough organization and Governor Porter was elected by a largely increased majority, in the county as well as in the State. Subsequently, in 1847, while the Whigs were in the majority in the State Legislature, Judge Banks was elected to the office of State treasurer for one year by the united support of all the Whigs.

Between 1850 and 1860, there were two prominent representatives from the county in the State Legislature—William M. Hiester, in the Senate from 1853 to 1855, serving as speaker during the latter year; and J. Lawrence Getz, in the House for 1856 and 1857, also serving as speaker during the latter year. Mr. Getz subsequently served three terms in Congress from this district, 1867 to 1873.

Hiester Clymer occupied great political prominence in the county for twenty years, from 1861 to 1881. He was in the State Senate from 1861 to



1866. In 1866, he received the nomination for Governor on the Democratic ticket, but he was not elected. Reading was then Republican in political sentiment by a small majority and the nominee on the Republican ticket received the full party vote, notwithstanding Reading was the home of Mr. Clymer. He was the representative in Congress from 1873 to 1881.

Daniel Ermentrout succeeded Clymer in political prominence, having been State senator from 1874 to 1880, and the representative in Congress from 1881 to 1889, and from 1897 to 1899, dying before the end of his last term.

POLITICAL SENTIMENT

POLITICAL PARTIES.—From the beginning of the county, there have been two parties in political affairs. Before the Revolution, agitation of political questions was not general or continuous. The elective franchise was a recognized privilege, but it was not particularly encouraged by the creation of convenient or numerous polls to enable electors to express political preferences. Local offices for the townships and the town were filled by election, but county officials were appointed, and this feature continued in respect to the major part of them until 1841, when an Act of Assembly was passed which provided for a general change to election. For over thirty-five years Berks county comprised one general election district, with the court-house at Reading as the polls. In 1789, the districts began to increase; and they have increased gradually, to satisfy the demands and encourage the facilities for election, till they now number seventy-eight.

During the Revolution, the people formed themselves into two parties, especially those who manifested any concern in the government; the one class, favoring a continuance of the royal government, called "Tories"; and the other, favoring a free, representative government, called "Federalists," or "Whigs." The distinction was marked, and fortunately for the people of the county, as of the State and the great confederation of States, the latter party won a decisive victory. Upon the establishment of freedom, new parties arose. These proceeded from Whigs, and were recognized either as the Government Whigs, or Federalists, who desired a Republican form of government, with checks upon the impulses or passions of the people, and with liberty regulated, strengthened and confirmed by central authority; or as the Particularist Whigs, or Anti-Federalists, who desired the same form of government, but Democratic in spirit, with the rights of local self-government, and of States ever uppermost.

In 1784, there were two parties in the province, called Republicans and Constitutionalists. Most of the electors of this county were of the latter party. In a certain sense, the latter took the place of the "Tories," and were called "Republicans." They were the dominant party in the county then and

they have continued to be till now. A singular change—if not a transformation—in respect to party names, arose afterward. As early as 1793, the Anti-Federal party was called the Democratic-Republican party; but the word "Republican" was dropped in 1805, and the name Democratic alone used. Thence the Federalists, or Whigs, or Republicans, have been on the one side and the Democrats on the other, the latter party keeping its identity here for over a century. For twenty-five years, from 1830 to 1855, the Anti-Mason party for ten years, and the Whig for fifteen, were substituted in the place of the Republican party.

The Declaration of Independence was published on the 4th day of July, 1776. Since the Revolution, that day has been regarded as the nation's birthday, and it has been made a holiday by the several State governments. Annually for about eighty years, the parties of each community celebrated this great holiday by assembling at popular places and drinking toasts, making addresses and enjoying themselves generally. At Reading, the parties celebrated the day regularly in this manner. The Federalists and the Whigs assembled on the island in the Schuylkill river, several hundred feet above the ferry, at the foot of Bingham street; and the Democrats at Mineral Spring, east of the limits of Reading. When the Civil war broke out, this custom was discontinued, and it has not been revived.

VOTE FOR GOVERNOR.—Since 1788, the people of the county manifested a most remarkable adherence to the Democratic party and the principles which it advocated, chief among them the principle of local self-government. In 1802, the Democratic vote was eight times that of the Federal. Afterward this proportion was at no time surpassed, not even equaled. The vote was regularly for the Democratic candidate, excepting two occasions, in 1817 and 1820, when the people of the county manifested their respect for Joseph Hiester, though on the opposing ticket. These occasions were when Hiester was a candidate on the Federal ticket for Governor. He had distinguished himself in political affairs through a period of forty years.

Berks county was not alone in honoring him, for of the eleven counties in the southeastern section of the State, he had eight in 1817. This important section of the State gave him a majority of 7,191, though the State was against him by a majority of 7,005. And in 1820 he had nine of the eleven counties, with a majority of 8,191, and in the State a majority of 1,605. In this connection, the vote of Hiester for Congress, as against Daniel Clymer, in 1798, can be mentioned in order to show Hiester's popularity. The vote was more than four to one in his favor. All the districts in the county except one gave him large majorities, and this exception was the "Forest" district, influenced by the Clymer family, resident in Caernarvon township.

Even through the excitement incident to the Civil war, 1861-65, the county continued Democratic by

large majorities. The city of Reading was otherwise, though theretofore also generally Democratic; for, at the election previous to 1860, it was almost three to one Democratic, but in 1860, 1863, and 1866 it was Republican. Since then, it has been Democratic, excepting at the election of 1894, when the Republicans received a plurality of 1,123.

VOTE FOR PRESIDENT.—In 1828, the vote for Jackson in Berks was five to one against Adams. Then it was that the county distinguished itself in voting for Jackson. It would seem that the people here, as the people elsewhere, had felt keenly the outrage perpetrated upon them by the House of Representatives, in not respecting the will of the majority by the selection of a candidate for President whose electors had received the greatest number of votes. The idea of self-government was again uppermost in their minds, and this idea they felt it their duty to express by ballot in a most unequivocal manner. The vote of Reading was in the same proportion. And at Jackson's re-election in 1832, the result of the vote, both in the county and city, was for him in the proportion of about four to one. The vote in the county for President from 1828 to 1904 was always Democratic by a large majority.

The city of Reading was also Democratic by a considerable majority till 1860; then a decided change took place through the great upheaval in political affairs. Lincoln was given a majority of more than 500 over Breckenridge, and of more than 300 over all, Douglas and Bell included. This Republican feeling in the city prevailed till the re-election of Grant, when, remarkable to say, a majority of 1,207 was given for him. In the election of McKinley, there was a plurality of 1,717 for him in 1896, and of 1,111 in 1900; in the election of Roosevelt, there was a plurality of 3,369 for him in 1904; and in the election of Taft, of 866 for him in 1908.

VOTE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.—On the question of amending the State Constitution, the election returns are interesting. In 1825, the county was against the Convention by a vote of five to one; and in 1835, also against it, of over two to one. But in 1838, on the question of ratifying the work of the Convention, the county voted for the Amendments. The chief provision gave electors the right to elect county officials, excepting the judges, and this the county electors appreciated very much. The State adopted them, but by a very small majority compared with the total vote.

In 1850, on the question of making the judges of the Supreme and County courts elective, the county was for it by a large majority; and the State was for it by a vote of two to one.

In 1871, the question of a Convention was again submitted to the voters. The county was against it by a remarkable vote of two to one, but the State was for it by a vote of almost five to one. However, on the ratification of the report of the Convention at a special election in 1873, the county

was decidedly for the New Constitution by a vote of five to one.

VOTE FOR PROHIBITION AND LICENSE.—The liquor question was submitted twice to a vote of the electors; first in 1834, and again in 1873. On both occasions, the county was decidedly in favor of license; first, by a vote of four to one; and next, three to one.

ELECTION OF 1876.—The Democrats in Berks county were certain of victory in 1876. They were taught to expect it, and when the night of the election arrived they looked for it. But the news was doubtful. They had counted upon a "Solid South," and also certain Northern States. Their leader had calculated with great shrewdness, but neither he nor any of his followers had thought the loss of three Southern States within the range of possibility. And this result actually occurred. Late on election day, the chairman of the Republican National Committee announced that Hayes had 185 electoral votes, and would be the next President. This came to be exactly so. But during the four intervening months, great excitement prevailed and fears of a political revolution were entertained. At Reading, excited crowds of people assembled for many nights in succession to hear the returns which were reflected upon screens—the *Times* screen having been set up against the Jameson building on the Sixth street side, above the portico, so as to show the figures down Penn Square, and the *Eagle* screen in front of the *Eagle* building. Some of the cartoons were striking and afforded much merriment in relieving the monotony of election returns. The elephant figured conspicuously in them. At one time he came out with a rooster in his trunk lashing it around wildly in the air; then with a rooster tied to his tail, running away with it; now jumping for joy at a favorable report, then lying on his back as if dead from a Democratic victory, with a rooster crowing lustily over his fallen body; Jeff Davis was represented as sitting up in a sour apple tree, and different prominent Democrats were drawn in various laughable positions; and numerous short witticisms appeared frequently. Altogether, the exhibition awakened a thrilling interest in the people.

STATE CONVENTIONS AT READING.—Three Democratic State Conventions were held at Reading at which candidates for Governor were nominated: the first on June 4, 1851, when William Bigler was nominated by acclamation; the second on Feb. 29, 1860, when Henry D. Foster was nominated; and the third on May 30, 1872, when Charles R. Buckalew was nominated.

A Democratic State Convention assembled at Reading in the Academy of Music on Aug. 31, 1897, which was reported to have been the most turbulent in the history of conventions in the State of Pennsylvania. The purpose was to nominate candidates for auditor-general and State treasurer. Hon. Daniel Ermentrout of Reading was elected tem-

porary chairman and he filled the position under adverse and exciting circumstances.

MASS-MEETINGS.—Numerous mass-meetings have been held at Reading by the respective political parties. The earliest meeting of which any extended notice was given, was held by the Democratic party Sept. 4, 1852, for the purpose of ratifying the nomination of Franklin Pierce as the Democratic candidate for President. Philadelphia sent a delegation of fifteen hundred men, accompanied by three fine bands of music; and large delegations were in attendance from Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, Chester, Bucks, Montgomery, Lehigh, Schuylkill and other counties, whilst from the hills and valleys of Berks county hundreds of the indomitable Democracy came to swell the assembled multitude. Conspicuous among those from the county were the North Heidelberg delegation in large hay-wagons and vehicles of every description; the Boyertown Pierce Club in carriages with flags, banners and wreaths of flowers; and the Kutztown Pierce Club in carriages, with flags and music. It was the largest meeting ever held at Reading till that time, and it included the largest number of great political leaders which the citizens had ever seen together here. A platform was erected at the upper end of the Western Market-House and around it the crowd assembled and heard the speeches of such distinguished men as Hon. James Buchanan, Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, Gov. Enoch Lowe (Maryland), Gov. William Bigler (Pennsylvania), Hon. Barnabas Bates (New York), Hon. Charles J. Faulkner (Virginia), Hon. B. F. Balliett (Massachusetts), Chief Justice LeGrand (Maryland), Hon. John A. Wilcox (Mississippi), and Hon. John H. Savage (Tennessee). Addresses were made from noon till midnight. Mr. Buchanan was chairman of the meeting during the afternoon, and, in the course of his opening remarks, he complimented Berks county for "her undeviating patriotism and entire devotion to Democratic principles."

RITNER YOUNG MEN'S CONVENTION.—The young men of Pennsylvania, who were favorable to the election of Joseph Ritner for Governor held a convention at Reading on June 4-5, 1838. Seventeen hundred delegates assembled from all parts of the State. Their meeting was held in the Trinity Lutheran Church, and it was distinguished for earnest enthusiasm. Appropriate addresses were made and resolutions passed. The meeting was the largest of a representative character ever held at Reading until that time. It was conducted with ability and occasioned much excitement. But it did not increase the strength of the Anti-Mason party in this section of the State. It was the first and only political convention ever assembled in a church building at Reading. Permission was granted by the church vestry because there was no large hall in the borough then, and the Trinity Church was the only place in which so large a body of men could assemble with convenience.

WHIG MASS-MEETING OF 1844.—The Presidential campaign of 1844 was particularly exciting. Henry Clay was the Whig candidate for President, and James K. Polk the Democratic candidate. The former enjoyed a very high degree of popularity throughout the county, and his friends conducted a very active campaign in his behalf. The Whigs of Pennsylvania exhibited much enthusiasm for him during the canvass, for he was a great favorite in every section of the State, especially where manufactures were carried on. Reading was then a growing centre for industries of various kinds, and the Whigs here idolized him for his earnest labors in the cause of protection to home industries. They held a mass-meeting at Reading, on Sept. 27, 1844. Over five thousand persons were in attendance, delegations having come from different sections of the surrounding country. The day was especially noted for a large procession in which the various trades and employments were represented. Miniature shops and factories were hauled about the town and successfully operated.

The living raccoon again figured conspicuously in the procession, as it had in the previous campaign. The singing of campaign songs added interest to this occasion, just as it had been practised four years before, when there was one universal shout for "Old Tippecanoe and Tyler too." Notwithstanding this great effort of the Whigs, they could not weaken the devotion of the Democrats in the county or lessen their majority. The pokeberry was brought into great prominence by the Democrats.

During this campaign, the Democrats also held a large mass-meeting. One of its prominent features was a large boat, rigged as a "Ship of State," manned by a number of boys dressed as sailors, and drawn on wheels in the procession by many young men. The majority for Polk in the borough was 369, and in the county 4,674. This result indicated the thorough organization of the Democrats. Dallas, their candidate for Vice-President, visited Reading during the campaign and delivered an address at the "Mineral Spring," dwelling particularly upon and favoring the tariff. Gen. Sam Houston from Texas was also present.

CLYMER MASS-MEETINGS IN 1866.—Hon. Heister Clymer, a citizen of Reading, received the nomination for Governor on the Democratic ticket in 1866. He had been State senator from 1861 to 1866, during which time he had acquired considerable popularity throughout the State. Gen. John W. Geary was the Republican candidate. Both parties were under thorough organization and they labored earnestly for success. Many mass-meetings were held in different parts of the State, and at all of them much enthusiasm was manifested.

In Berks county the leaders of the party were particularly active. Numerous public meetings were held and many speeches delivered. General political excitement prevailed from the beginning until the close of the campaign; which increased as the

day of election approached. Two Democratic mass-meetings were held at Reading, one on July 18th, and the other on Oct. 3d; and upon each occasion a multitude of people assembled. At the former there were delegations from four-fifths of the counties in the State. Hon. Richard Vaux acted as chairman of the meeting, and addresses were made by Mr. Clymer, Hon. Montgomery Blair, Hon. George H. Pendleton, and other distinguished political leaders. High party feeling was produced under the great excitement, so high, indeed, that it almost resulted in riots with certain Republicans who were equally earnest and demonstrative for their leader, General Geary. There was a grand procession, with Gen. Tobias Barto as chief marshal, estimated to contain five thousand persons in a line two miles long. Many wagons, teams, bands, and banners of all kinds accompanied the numerous delegations, and the enthusiasm was unbounded.

Notwithstanding all this exertion and expense by the Democrats, the city of Reading was not carried for Clymer. It had been Republican through the war, and this political sentiment still prevailed by a small majority which Clymer could not overcome, even with the aid of local prejudice and enthusiastic demonstrations. The vote in Reading for him was 2,689 and for Geary 2,704—a majority of 15 against him; and in the county for him 13,288 and for Geary 7,121—a majority of 6,167 for him.

POLITICAL FESTIVALS

HIESTER FESTIVAL OF 1820.—In 1817, the Hon. Joseph Hiester, of Reading, was nominated as the Federal candidate for Governor against the Hon. William Findlay as the Democratic candidate; but he was defeated by a majority of 7,005. In 1820, the same candidates were again on the respective tickets, and Hiester was elected by a small majority, 1,605. The success of this election contest, by which the most distinguished citizen of Berks county was chosen to be the chief executive officer of Pennsylvania, was an event which could not be permitted to pass away in the annals of local affairs without signaling it by an impressive public demonstration. He was then concluding his ninth term in Congress, and resigned his seat soon after the election. His fellow-citizens had therefore come to regard him with more than ordinary feelings of respect and honor. And what means could they have selected more adapted to display their satisfaction and joy than a feast at which they could eat, drink and be merry? Accordingly, in honor of this event, pursuant to public invitation, a grand festival took place on Wednesday, Nov. 1, 1820, on the "Common" near the "arched spring," east of the borough. People assembled from every part of the county and many distinguished politicians came from Philadelphia and counties adjoining Berks to participate in the feast. Over four thousand persons united in the demonstration. A procession was first formed by the Committee of Arrangements on Penn Square,

about 11 o'clock in the morning, which marched up Penn street to the "Common," arriving there about noon. An area comprising several acres was surrounded by a barrier, with a large platform on the eastern side, upon which the articles for the feast were placed. Two fat bullocks on spits, and a bear and a hog on gridirons, were roasted entire. The four skins had been stuffed and mounted on cars. The area was occupied by the Committee of Arrangements, High's Dragoons, Getz's Guards, and a band of music from Philadelphia; and it included thousands of spectators, whose orderly deportment was highly commendable.

The butchers commenced to carve the roasted animals about 2 o'clock. The first slice of each animal was taken to the residence of Hiester on Penn Square (adjoining the Farmers' Bank on the west) by two butchers, who were escorted by a detachment of the Guards; and the carving then continued until all were satisfied. After the feasting was concluded, a meeting was organized and twenty toasts, expressive of patriotic and complimentary sentiments, were read, all of which were received with loud applause. Then a unanimous desire was expressed "to see the Revolutionary Veteran," and he was accordingly escorted to the meetings from his residence by a special committee, his presence awakening "indescribable effusions of joy." At 4 o'clock, the procession was reformed and, with the "Governor-elect" supported by two stalwart citizens, it paraded through the principal streets of the borough, halting opposite his residence, where they were dismissed in perfect harmony.

In the evening, the celebration was continued by a "torch-light procession." A transparent temple was carried by four men through the principal streets, preceded and followed by a train of citizens who held lighted candles in their hands. The sides of this temple were illustrated; the front presented a likeness of Washington, the rear the arms of the United States, and the right and left sides well-executed likenesses of Hiester.

A similar festival, to celebrate the same event, was held at Orwigsburg, in Schuylkill county, on Nov. 10, 1820. The morning of that day was ushered in by the firing of cannon and the ringing of bells. A meeting was first organized in the Court-House; then the people formed into line and proceeded under the leadership of three marshals, assisted by a band of music, to "Mount Monroe." As they marched, bells rang and cannon boomed. A fine ox, and deer were roasted, and a large number of persons, seated at tables especially arranged, participated in a great feast. At a meeting, afterward formed, thirteen toasts were offered and drunk.

On the same day, a festival was also held at Kutztown. Twenty-five toasts were offered and drunk at a large meeting.

HARRISON FESTIVAL OF 1840.—The Presidential campaign of 1840 was conducted with great enthusiasm, and it developed much political excitement



throughout the country. Grand processions were witnessed in every community. The voters of Reading and the surrounding districts in the county caught the feeling, especially on the side of the Whigs. One of the processions was distinguished for its log cabin and living raccoons. The election resulted in a victory for the Whigs, an event which elicited from them particular demonstrations of joy. It was their first victory, and they felt great pride in it. What could they do upon such an occasion but demonstrate their feelings as their party, under the name of "Federals," had done twenty years before? The leaders therefore decided to signalize their triumph by a "grand ox-roast," on the "Common," on Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1840, and they issued a public notice that "an ox will be roasted whole and plenty of hard cider will be provided." The day was accordingly celebrated under the direction of an organized meeting, with men prominent in respect to business, politics and military as its officers. Thirteen toasts were announced, and appropriate responses were made. Many persons participated in the feast.

TILDEN FESTIVAL OF 1876.—The Presidential campaign of 1876 was full of enthusiasm from the beginning to the end. Samuel J. Tilden, of New York, was the Democratic candidate, and Rutherford B. Hayes, of Ohio, the Republican. The Democrats throughout the county were very hopeful of success with so distinguished a candidate as Mr. Tilden, and they therefore carried on the political contest with all the energy that they could command. The leaders of the party in the county were particularly active. Toward the close of the campaign they made arrangements for a "buffalo roast" in order to enable their party the more thoroughly to demonstrate their feelings in a public manner, and they selected a day for that purpose. The previous festivals in 1820 and 1840 were held after the election, but this was to be held before the election. The announcement was made, giving the public to know "that the Democratic citizens of Berks and adjoining counties will have a—

GRAND ROAST OF TWO BUFFALOES,

lately captured on the western plains, and a

JUBILEE PARADE

in honor of their candidates for President and Vice-President, and the gallant freemen of the West, at the Fair Grounds, City of Reading, on Thursday, October 26, 1876, and also an

OLD-FASHIONED DEMOCRATIC PROCESSION,

in which soldiers and sailors, farmers and mechanics and all good citizens, with their wives and daughters, are respectfully invited to participate

The day arrived and the programme was carried out very successfully. In the morning many delegations came to Reading from all parts of the county, and by 11 o'clock the "Jubilee Parade" was formed, when it was marched over a long route.

Besides the usual demonstrations in a procession of this character, there was an "elephant in boots," veritably walking in the parade, hired from Forepaugh (the showman) for the occasion. The symbol of the *Reading Times*, in signalizing a political victory on the morning after an election, for many years, was the "elephant in boots" at the head of its columns; but the Democrats desired to show by a living cartoon that they had taken its elephant captive, and were going to carry it along in their triumphant march. This conception created much amusement throughout the entire route. It was the centre of attraction. On the way, the elephant kicked off one of his Democratic boots, just as if he were walking in doubtful company and on a doubtful platform, and desirous of freeing himself. The procession was nearly an hour in passing a point, and ended in the "Fair-Ground," where the feast on roasted buffalo was enjoyed by many hundreds of persons. Speeches were made by prominent men from different parts of the country. The most distinguished guest upon this unusual occasion was Gen. George B. McClellan, whose presence elicited great applause wherever he went.

CLEVELAND FESTIVALS.—The election of Grover Cleveland, the Democratic candidate for President in the election of November, 1884, was the occasion of great rejoicing. In the county the plurality of Cleveland over Blaine was 6,897, and in Reading, 499. The victory was of such an extraordinary nature that the Democrats could not refrain from public demonstrations of various kinds.

In Reading, a grand "Salt-River Parade" took place on Nov. 12th, in which there were fifteen hundred men in line, with numerous teams and eighty men on horseback, as well as many humorous transparencies and a prostrate stuffed elephant on one of the floats.

At Bernville, and also at Rehrersburg, there were ox-roasts on Nov. 15th, which elicited a great deal of public excitement.

At Kutztown, on Nov. 21st, there was one of the grandest political demonstrations ever witnessed by the inhabitants. An ox, weighing twelve hundred pounds, was roasted, and after a grand parade, in which three hundred men on horseback from all the surrounding districts participated, including a large delegation from the "Americus Club" of Reading, there was a grand feast and much hilarity. A "Liberty Pole," 160 feet high, was erected to signalize the victory.

The next day after the election, there was a considerable fall of snow, and the epigrammatic expression—"And the next day it snowed"—caused much merriment among the participants in this demonstration, as well as in the demonstrations elsewhere.

OFFICES BY SPECIAL LEGISLATION

The general political history of Berks county is similar to that of the whole State in respect to its general government. Legislation created territorial

divisions and provided offices of various kinds for them in order to facilitate the regulation of local affairs, and the representation of the people in the legislative bodies of the State and nation. And these offices have been filled either by election or by appointment from the beginning of our political existence as a county until now. A sameness extends throughout the whole period. Comparatively little special legislation has been done for our county in the way of creating positions.

Four Acts of the General Assembly are worthy of mention: One passed in 1824, relative to the management of poor affairs; another in 1848, relative to the management of prison affairs; a third in 1869, relative to the election of an additional law judge; and a fourth in 1883, to the election of an Orphans' court judge.

A marked change was introduced by the Constitution of 1873, enabling the minority party to elect officials. In Berks county this applied to county commissioners and county auditors. Theretofore, these officials in the county were almost entirely Democrats since their election in 1841.

The first Republican commissioner and auditor under this provision were elected in 1875. And in 1873, the Act of 1848 creating the board of prison inspectors was so amended as to enable the minority party to elect three out of nine inspectors or annually one out of three.

The Act of 1824, relating to the poor directors, which provides for the annual election of a director for three years, has not yet been amended to meet the spirit of the times and of the State Constitution.

In 1867, when jury commissioners were authorized to be elected, provision was made that each elector should vote for one person for this office, and the two persons having the highest vote should be the commissioners. This provision enabled the minority party in the county to elect one commissioner, and accordingly, the Republicans have elected a jury commissioner since 1867.

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

The office of representative to Congress of the United States was created by the Constitution of the United States which was adopted Sept. 17, 1787, and ratified by the Convention of Pennsylvania Dec. 12, 1787. The term of office was then made two years; and so it has continued to the present time.

Representatives were apportioned among the several States according to population, which was enumerated within three years after the first meeting of Congress, and every ten years thereafter.

The first apportionment by Congress gave Pennsylvania eight representatives. These were apportioned by the State Legislature, March 16, 1791, to eight districts. Berks, Northampton, and Luzerne counties were erected into one district, with one member. In 1793, the State was given thirteen

members. These were apportioned by the State Legislature on April 22, 1794, when Berks and Luzerne counties were made the Fifth Congressional District for the next ten years, with one member.

In 1802, Berks, Chester, and Lancaster formed the Third District, with an apportionment of three members.

In 1812, Berks and Schuylkill formed the Seventh District, with one member.

In 1822, Berks, Schuylkill, and Lehigh formed the Seventh District, with two members.

In 1832, Berks became a separate district, called the Ninth, with one member.

In 1843, and every ten years successively until 1887, Berks comprised the Eighth Congressional District, with one member.

By the Act of May 19, 1887, in the apportionment of the State, Lehigh county was included with Berks county in the formation of the Ninth District, and through delegates of the Republican and Democratic parties from the two counties, respectively, an agreement was entered into that Berks county should have the nominee for three consecutive terms and Lehigh for two as long as they continued together.

By the Act of July 11, 1901, in the apportionment of the State these two counties constituted the Thirteenth District.

The following persons represented Berks county in Congress:

Name	Term
Daniel Hiester	1789-97
Joseph Hiester*	1797-1807; 1815-20
Mathias Reichert	1807-11
John M. Hyneman†	1811-13
Daniel Udree	1813-15; 1823-25
Ludwig Worman‡	1821-22
William Adams	1825-29
Henry A. Muhlenberg§	1829-38
George M. Keim	1838-43
John Ritter	1843-47
William Strong	1847-53
J. Glancy Jones||	1851-53; 1854-55
Henry A. Muhlenberg, Jr.¶	1853-54
William H. Keim	1858-59
John Schwartz**	1859-60
Jacob K. McKenty	1860-61
Sydenham E. Ancona	1861-67

* Joseph Hiester was elected Governor of Pennsylvania in October, 1820, and resigned his seat in Congress. Daniel Udree was elected in December, 1820, to succeed him for the unexpired term ending March 3, 1821.

† John M. Hyneman was re-elected; but he resigned his seat, and Daniel Udree was elected to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term ending March 3, 1821.

‡ Ludwig Worman died Oct. 17, 1822, whilst filling this office, and Udree was elected in December following to fill the unexpired term ending in March, 1823.

§ Henry A. Muhlenberg resigned his seat in February, 1838, and accepted the Mission to Austria as the first Minister. George M. Keim was elected in March, 1838, to fill the unexpired term ending March 3, 1839.

|| J. Glancy Jones resigned in October, 1853, and accepted Mission to Austria. William H. Keim was elected on Nov. 30, 1853, to fill unexpired term ending March 3, 1859.

¶ Henry A. Muhlenberg, Jr., died at Washington on Jan. 9, 1854. He had appeared in Congress only a single day, when he was taken sick with typhoid fever, and thereafter was unable to resume his seat.

** John Schwartz died in July, 1860, and Jacob K. McKenty was elected to fill unexpired term ending March 3, 1861.

J. Lawrence Getz	1867-73
Hiester Clymer	1873-81
Daniel Ermentrout	1881-89; 1897-99
David B. Brunner	1889-93
Constantine J. Erdman*	1893-97
Henry D. Green	1899-1903
Marcus D. Kline	1903-1907
John H. Rothermel	1907-1911

FOREIGN MINISTERS

Henry A. Muhlenberg, to Austria	1858-40
J. Glancy Jones, to Austria	1858-61

FOREIGN CONSULS

John Endlich, at Basle, Switzerland	
Henry May Keim, at Prince Edward Island	

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONERS

William Strong	
Samuel L. Young	1853-1901
William J. Young	1901-05
Henry Maltzberger	1905—

REGISTERS IN BANKRUPTCY

Harrison Maltzberger	1867-92
Christian H. Ruhl	1898-1904
Samuel E. Berolet	1905—

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

The "Continental Congress" passed a resolution on May 15, 1776, calling upon the respective Assemblies of the "United Colonies" "to adopt such government as shall in the opinion of the representatives of the people best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular and America in general." In pursuance thereof a Provincial Conference was held in "Carpenter's Hall," at Philadelphia, on Tuesday, June 18, 1776. It was attended by representatives from all the counties of the province, then eleven in number. The representatives—or delegates, as they were called—from Berks county were:

Jacob Morgan	Benjamin Spyker	Joseph Hiester
Henry Haller	Daniel Hunter	Chas. Shoemaker
Mark Bird	Valentine Eckert	
Bodo Otto	Nicholas Lutz	

This Conference decided that a Provincial Convention should be called to meet on Monday, July 15, 1776, for the express purpose of "forming a new government in this province on the authority of the people only"; fixed the qualifications of electors, the number of representatives from each county and the time of their election; ordered an address to the people; and agreed upon a "Declaration of Independence" of the province, the truthfulness, forcibleness, and elegance of which are worthy all possible praise and admiration.

Accordingly, on July 15, 1776, the Convention assembled, composed of delegates from each county. The delegates from Berks county were:

Jacob Morgan	Benjamin Spyker	Chas. Shoemaker
Gabriel Hiester	Daniel Hunter	Thomas Jones, Jr
John Leshar	Valentine Eckert	

A constitution was agreed upon on Sept. 28, 1776, comprising a Preamble, Declaration of

* From Lehigh county.

Rights and Frame of Government. The "Declaration of Rights" was reported by a committee of eleven, of which John Leshar from Berks was a member.

By the 47th section of the "Frame of Government" a provision was made for the election of Censors in 1783 and every seventh year thereafter, who were "to inquire whether the Constitution was preserved inviolate in every part." The Censors elected in 1783 to represent Berks county were James Read and Baltzer Gehr.

The General Assembly of the State met at Philadelphia on March 24, 1789. The representatives from Berks county were:

Joseph Hiester	Joseph Sands	Daniel Brodhead
Gabriel Hiester	John Ludwig	

The Assembly decided that alterations and amendments to the Constitution of 1776 were necessary; and the Assembly met again on Sept. 15, 1789. A resolution was reported by a committee of the whole Assembly which favored the calling of a convention to amend the Constitution, and it was adopted.

Delegates were accordingly elected by each of the districts in the State, and those from Berks county were:

Joseph Hiester	Abraham Lincoln	Balsar Gehr
Christian Lower	Paul Groschup	

The Convention assembled in the State House, at Philadelphia, on Nov. 24, 1789, and a New Constitution was agreed upon, all the delegates subscribing it on Sept. 3, 1790. It was soon afterward submitted to the people of the State by a special election, and adopted.

This Constitution was continued as the general political law of the State until the adoption of a New Constitution in 1873. In the mean time efforts were made to improve it. An Act of Assembly was passed March 28, 1825, which provided for an election to be held at the next succeeding election to ascertain the opinion of the people relative to the call of a Constitutional Convention, but they decided by ballot that such a convention should not be called. The vote in Berks county was against it.

In 1835 a convention was again recommended, and the people decided that it was necessary. The vote in Berks county was against it again.

In 1837 a Convention was duly assembled at Harrisburg and various amendments to the Constitution were recommended, which were adopted at the regular election in October, 1838. The vote in Berks county was for them. The delegates at this Convention from Berks county were:

John Ritter	William High	James Donagan
George M. Keim	Mark Darrah	

Subsequently, till 1873, various amendments were proposed by Acts of Assembly and adopted by elections of the people.

An Act of Assembly was passed in 1871 which provided for the calling of a general convention to amend the Constitution of 1790. It was submitted to the people at the general election of October, 1871, and ratified. The vote in Berks county was against the proposition.

Delegates were accordingly elected; the Convention assembled—first at Harrisburg, then at Philadelphia; and the result of their labor was submitted to the people in 1873, and adopted. The vote in Berks county was favorable. The delegates from Berks county were:

George G. Barclay Henry W. Smith Henry Van Reed

Under the Provincial Constitution, and afterward under the State Constitutions of 1776, 1790, and 1873, the officers named in the subsequent pages were elected and appointed.

STATE OFFICIALS

The following persons from Berks county held State offices:

Charles Biddle, Supreme Executive Councillor, elected by the Legislature, 1784-87.

Joseph Hiester, Governor, elected, 1820-23.

Gabriel Hiester, Surveyor-General, appointed by the Governor, 1824-30.

Frederick Smith, Supreme Associate Justice, appointed by the Governor, 1828-30.

Jacob Sallade, Surveyor-General, appointed by the Governor, 1839-45.

John Banks, State Treasurer, elected by the Legislature, 1847.

William Strong, Supreme Associate Justice, elected, 1857-68.

William M. Hiester, Secretary of State, appointed by Governor, 1858-60.

William H. Keim, Surveyor-General, elected, 1860-61.

Warren J. Woodward, Supreme Associate Justice, elected, 1874-79.

David McMurtrie Gregg, Auditor-General, elected, 1892-95.

SENATORS

The office of State senator was created by the Constitution of 1790. The State was thereby apportioned into senatorial districts; and again in 1793, and subsequently every seven years till the adoption of the New Constitution of 1873, whereby the apportionment was thereafter to be made on the decennial census of the United States. In the beginning, Berks and Dauphin counties comprised a district with an allotment of two members; and they continued together till 1808, when Berks was erected into a separate district with two members. After the erection of Schuylkill county in 1811, it was added to Berks, and they together comprised a district with two members till 1836, when Berks was again erected into a district by itself with one member, and continued so from that time till now. The term was four years from 1790 to 1838; and three years thence to 1874, when the New Constitution fixed it at four years again.

The members from Berks alone are mentioned:

Name	Term
Joseph Hiester	1790-94
Gabriel Hiester	1795-96; 1805-12
Christopher Lower	1797-1804
John S. Hiester	1809-12
Charles Shoemaker	1813-16
Marks John Biddle	1817-20
Conrad Feger	1821-24
George Schall	1825-28
Daniel A. Bertolet	1829-32
Paul Geiger	1833-36
John Miller	1837-40
Samuel Fegely	1841-46
John Potteiger	1847-49
Henry A. Muhlenberg	1850-52
William M. Hiester*	1853-55
John C. Evans	1856-58
Benjamin Nunnemacher	1859-60
Hiester Clymer	1861-66
J. Dupuy Davis	1867-73
Daniel Ermentrout	1874-80
Edward H. Shearer	1881-84
Frank R. Brunner	1885-88
Henry D. Green	1889-96
W. Oscar Miller	1897-1900
Edward M. Herbst†	1901-1908

ASSEMBLYMEN

The office of assemblyman was first created by William Penn in establishing a government for the province; and representatives thereto, from the several counties as they were erected, were elected annually till the Declaration of Independence and the adoption of a Constitution by the State in 1776. It was continued by this Constitution, and afterward by that of 1790, whereby members to the Assembly were elected annually till the adoption of the New Constitution of 1873. Then the term was increased to two years. In all these years—from 1752 to the present time—Berks county was a separate district, excepting after the erection of Schuylkill county out of portions of Berks and Northampton, when it was added to Berks, and continued so for a period of eighteen years—from 1811 to 1829.

The number of representatives from Berks was as follows:

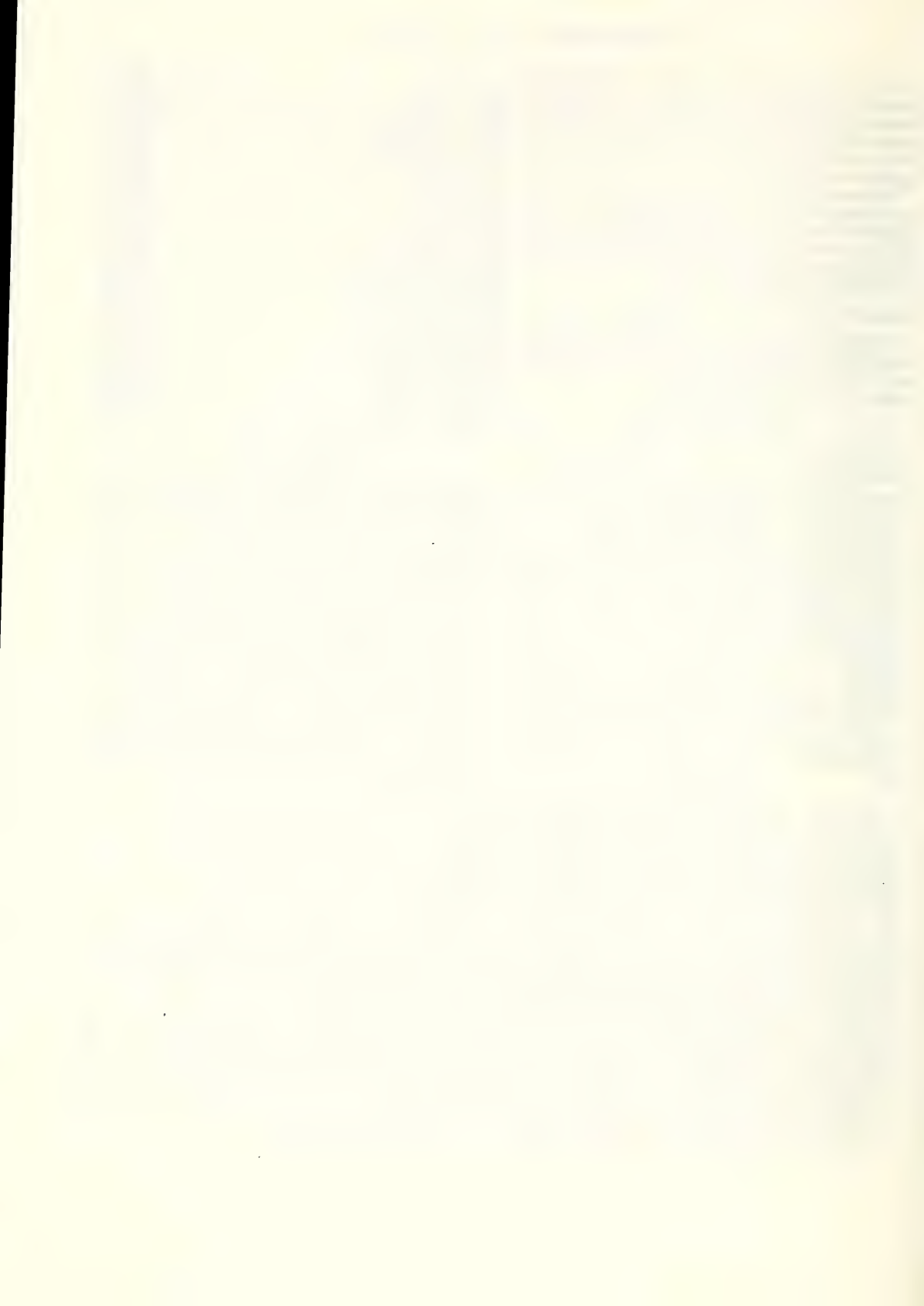
1752-71	1
1772-76	2
1777-81	4
1782-86	6
1787-1829	5
1830-57	4
1858-74	3

In 1874 six members were apportioned to Berks, to so continue until an apportionment be duly made on next census of United States (1880)—namely, to the city of Reading two members, and to the county of Berks four.

By the Act of May 12, 1887, in the apportionment of the State for representatives, the county of Berks became entitled to five members—the city of Reading as the First District to elect two members, and all the county outside of Reading

* William M. Hiester was elected and served as Speaker of the Senate for year 1855.

† Re-elected in November, 1908.



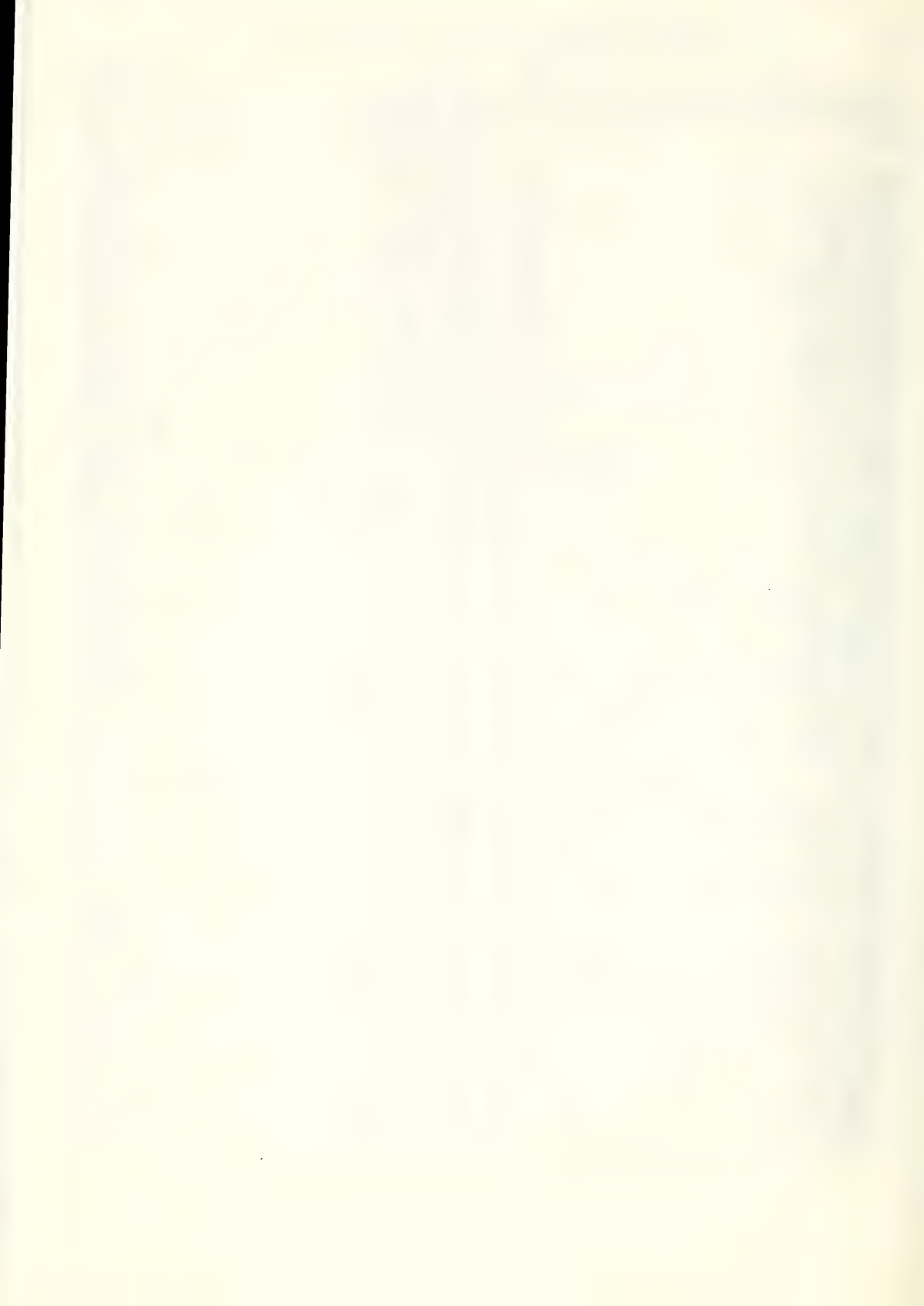
as the Second District to elect three members; which has continued unchanged.

The representatives from the county were as follows:

Name	Term
Moses Starr	1752-54
Francis Parvin	1755
Thomas Yorke	1756-57
James Boone	1758
John Potts	1759-61
John Ross	1762-64
Adam Witman	1765-66
Edward Biddle*	1767-81
Henry Christ	1771-81
Valentine Eckert	1776-79
Henry Haller	1776-81
John Leshar	1776-81
Jonathan Jones	1779-80
John Hiester	1782
Gabriel Hiester	1782; 1787-89; 1791; 1802-04
Baltzer Gehr	1782; 1786; 1792-99
Daniel Hunter	1782
Benjamin Weiser	1782
Joel Bishop	1782-84
Daniel Clymer	1783-84; 1787; 1791
Chris. Lower	1783-85; 1793-94; 1796
Abraham Lincoln	1783-86
John Ludwig	1783; 1789; 1790-92
John Patton	1782
George Ege	1783
Nicholas Lotz	1784-86; 1790-94
John Rice	1784
Henry Spyker	1785-86
David Davis	1785-88
Martin Rhoads	1785
Philip Kraemer	1786-87
Joseph Hiester	1787-90
Charles Biddle	1788
Joseph Sands	1788-90
Daniel Brodhead	1789
Daniel Leimbach	1790
James Collins	1791
C. Shoemaker	1792-1801; 1810; 1812
Paul Groscup	1792-98
John Christ	1795-96
John Spayd	1795-1810
Peter Frailey	1797-1801; 1810; 1812
William Lewis	1797-98
D. Rose	1799-1804; 1806-08; 1811-12
Daniel Udree	1799-1803; 1805
William Witman	1800-05
Frederick Smith	1802-03
Isaac Adams	1804-05
Jacob Rhoads	1804-05; 1809
Jacob Epler	1805; 1816
Elias Redcay	1806-07
Valentine Probst	1806-08
Jacob Schaeffer	1806-08
John Bishop	1806
Daniel Yoder	1807-08
Bernard Kepner	1808
Jacob Schneider	1809
David Kerby	1809-12; 1815; 1817
John M. Hyneman	1809
James McFarland	1809
Adam Ruth	1810-11
Conrad Feger	1811-14
John Miller	1813; 1815
Jacob Krebs	1813-14
John Adams	1813-14
Jacob Sassaman	1813
George Marx	1814
Jonathan Hudson	1814
Daniel Kerper	1815

* In 1774 Edward Biddle was Speaker of the Assembly.

Name	Term
Daniel Rhoads, Jr.	1815-17; 1822
Jacob Dreibelbis	1815
Christian Haldeman	1816
D. Hottenstein	1816; 1822-24; 1827
William Schoener	1817
Godfried Rocher	1817; 1820; 1823
Michael Graeff	1817-19
Joseph Good	1818-19
Jacob Levan	1818-19
Elisha Geiger	1818
Jacob Griesemer	1818-19
John Neikerch	1819; 1822
John Kohler	1820
Abraham Mengel	1820
John W. Roseberry	1820
George Gernant	1820-21
Samuel Jones	1821
Joseph Good	1821
Jacob Rahn	1821
Jacob Schneider	1821
William Adams	1822-24
John Gehr	1822-23
William Audenried	1823-24
Henry Boyer	1824-27; 1832
James Everhard	1824-26
George Rahn	1825; 1827-28
Jacob Gehr	1825-26
Geo. M. Odenheimer	1825
Daniel A. Bertolotte	1826-28
Michael Graeff	1826
Philip A. Good	1827-29
Mordecai Lewis	1828
John Stauffer	1829-31
Thos. J. Roehrer	1829-30
George Klein	1829
Paul Geiger	1829-31
John Wanner	1830-32
John Potteiger	1831-34; 1842-44
William High	1832
Peter Klein, Jr.	1833-34
Benjamin Tyson	1833
Jacob M. Snyder	1833-34
Adam Schoener	1834; 1839-40
William Hottenstein	1835-36
Lewis W. Richards	1835
John Ulrich	1835-36
John Jackson	1835-37
John Sheetz	1836-37
Michael K. Boyer	1837
S. Fegely	1837-39; 1848; 1849; 1851
Jacob Walborn	1838-39
Abraham Hill	1838-39
James Geiger	1838
Henry Flannery	1840-41
Peter Filbert	1840
Daniel B. Kutz	1840-41
Robert M. Barr	1841
Samuel Moore	1841-43
John Shenk	1842-43
Joseph Bachman	1842-43
Henry W. Smith	1844-45
John C. Evans	1844; 1850-52
Alfred J. Herman	1844
Jacob Tice	1845-46
Michael Hoffman	1845-46; 1857
Henry G. Stetler	1845-46; 1848
Charles Levan	1846-47
John Long	1847-48
John C. Myers	1847-49
Jacob Graeff	1847
William Shaffner	1849-50
Daniel Zerbey	1849-50; 1853
Alex. S. Feather	1850-51
Jacob Reifsnnyder	1851-52
Isaac Yost	1852-53
George Dengler	1852-53



Name	Term
Jacob Wicklein	1853-54
John B. Smith	1854
George Shenk	1854-56
Dan'l V. R. Hunter	1854
Jeremiah Mengel	1855
John F. Linderman	1855
Samuel Shearer	1855
Andrew M. Sallade	1855
J. Lawrence Getz*	1856-57
William Heins	1856-57
Benj. Nunnemacher	1856-58
Michael Hoffman	1857
Edmund L. Smith	1858-59
Amos Weiler	1858
Solomon L. Custer	1859-60
Augustus F. Bertolet	1859
Joshua S. Miller	1860
Elijah Penn Smith	1860-61
Michael P. Boyer	1861
Henry B. Rhoads	1861; 1863-67
Charles A. Kline	1862-64
Daniel K. Weidner	1862-63
William N. Pottiger	1862-64
John P. Missimer	1864-66
Frederick Harner	1865-67
Richmond L. Jones	1867-68
Henry S. Hottenstein	1868-69
Henry Brobst	1868-70
Aaron T. C. Keffer	1870-72
Hiram H. Schwartz	1870-72
John A. Conrad	1871-73
Benjamin E. Dry	1873-76
Michael McCullough	1873-74
Aaron Smith	1874-76
Daniel L. Batdorf	1875
Nicholas Andre	1875-78
Joseph B. Conrad	1876-78
George D. Schaeffer	1877-80
Stephen J. Smith	1877-80
James Liggett	1879-82
John H. Riegel	1879-82
C. A. Seidel	1881-84
George K. Lorah	1881-84
Isaac Z. Deck	1883-86
James W. Sponagle	1883-86
Benjamin C. Baer	1884-88
L. P. G. Fegley	1884-88
N. S. Kaufman	1887-90
John E. Pautsch	1887-90
Cyrus W. Kutz	1889-92
Samuel B. Keppel	1891-94
F. Leonard Reber	1891-94
Jacob G. Herzog	1893-96
Cyrus J. Rhode	1895-98
Jacob M. Weible	1895-98
Charles B. Spatz	1897-1900
Frank H. Naftzinger	1899-1902
Lot W. Reiff	1899-1902
Elmer E. Soulb	1901-04
Francis W. Balthaser	1903-06
Thomas R. Houck	1903-06
Jacob A. Lesher	1905-06
Howard G. McGowan	1907-08
Irwin M. Shorman	1907-10
David H. G. Kuser	1907-10
Alvin K. Lesher	1909-10

COUNTY OFFICERS

COMMISSIONERS.—The board of county commissioners comprises three members. Previous to 1875, one was elected annually for three years. The Constitution of 1873 provided for the election of

the three commissioners in 1875 and every third year thereafter.

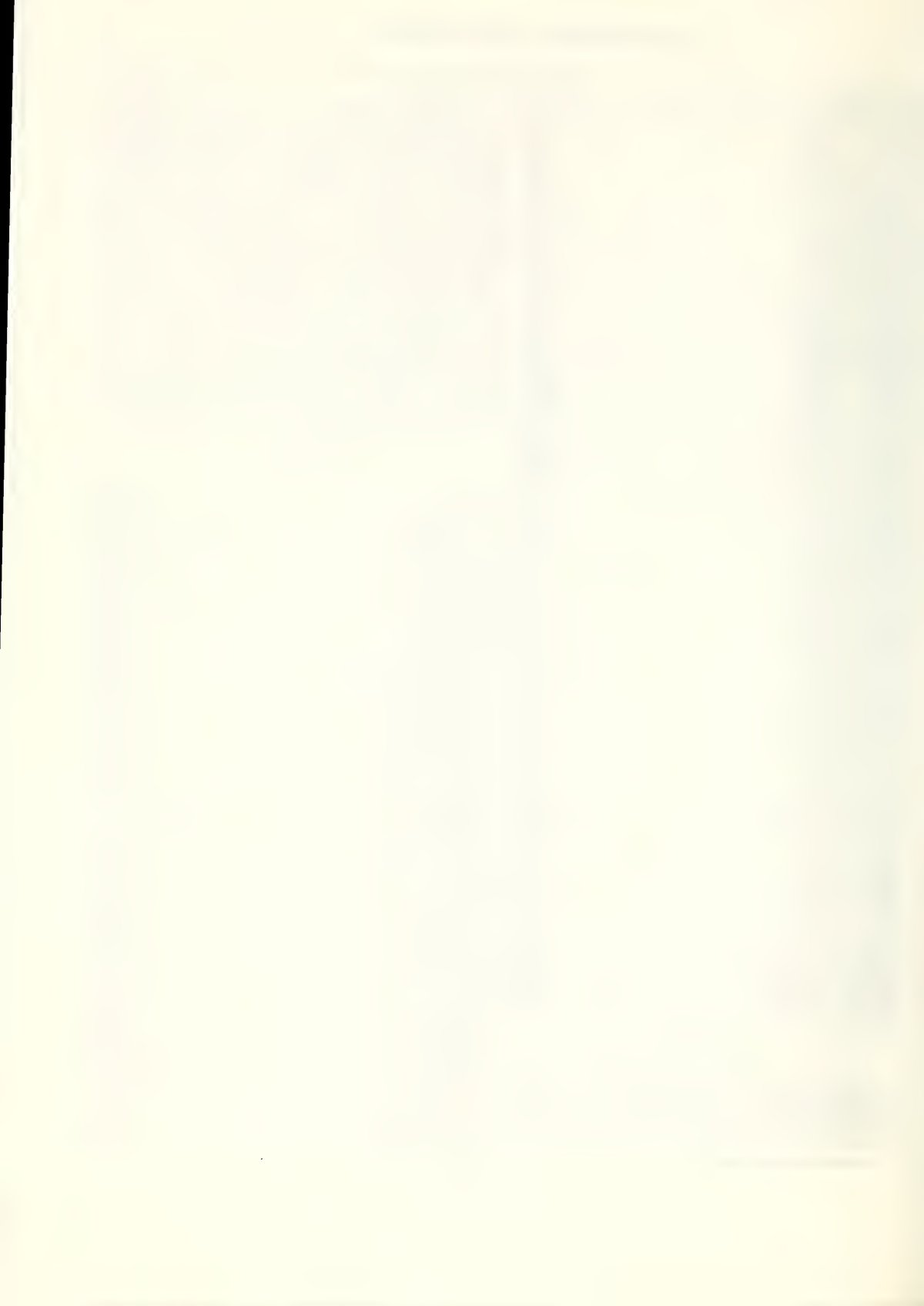
The board of county auditors also comprises three members. Previous to 1809 they were appointed by the county judges. An Act was passed March 16, 1809, providing for the annual election thereafter of three auditors. In 1814, this provision was modified so that a new auditor was introduced into the board annually thereafter. This practice prevailed until the Constitution of 1873, which provided for the election of three auditors in 1875 and every third year thereafter.

In respect to both commissioners and auditors, "each qualified elector shall vote for no more than two persons, and the three persons having the highest number of votes shall be elected." This was a marked departure from the old system, by which all of one political party were elected. It enabled the opposite party to elect one member. Since 1875, these officers have been elected—two by the Democrats and one by the Republicans.

COMMISSIONERS

Name	Term
Evan Price	1752-53
Edward Drury	1752-56
John Godfrey	1752-61
Jacob Lightfoot	1753-56; 1759-62
Thomas Rutter	1756-59
William Reeser	1757-60
Samuel High	1760-63; 1773-76
Christian Wittman	1761-64
John Hughes	1762-65
Fred'k Weiser	1763-66
Richard Lewis	1764-67
Isaac Levan	1765-68
Nicholas Harmony	1766-69
Christian Merkel	1767-70
Jacob Snyder	1769-71
John Jones	1769-72
Henry Rightmeyer	1770-73
Davis Brecht	1771-74
Abraham Lincoln	1772-78
Michael Brecht	1774-77
Christian Lower	1776-79
John Kerlin	1777-80
Adam Witman	1778-81; 1784-87
Thomas Jones	1779-82; 1783-86
Thomas Parry	1780-83
Daniel Messersmith	1781-84
Michael Porry	1782-85
Conrad Eckert	1785-91
Daniel Leimbach	1786-89
John Keim	1787-90
Jacob Boyer	1789-92
Jacob Bower	1790-93
John Riegel	1791-94
George Lorah	1792-95
Philip Miller	1793-96
Peter Kershner	1794-97
William Witman	1795-98
Nicholas Dick	1796-99
Isaac Addams	1797-1800
Jacob Rhoads	1798-1801
Peter Feather	1799-1802
Jacob Epler	1800-03
Casper Merkel	1801-04
John Cummins	1802-05
Daniel Yoder	1803-06
Adam Ruth	1804-07

* Speaker of House in 1857.



Name	Term	Name	Term
Henry Hahn.....	1805-08	Jeremiah R. Guldin.....	1879-81
Henry Hottenstein.....	1806-09	Samuel G. Hatfield.....	1882-84
Nicholas Leib.....	1807-10	Peter Spang.....	1882-84
Jacob Miller.....	1808-11	David C. Keller.....	1882-84
Valentine Boyer.....	1809-12	John L. Wagner.....	1883-87
Daniel Ruth.....	1810-13	Samuel K. Fisher.....	1883-87
George Boyer.....	1811-14	David C. Keller.....	1883-87
Jacob Gehr.....	1812-15	Samuel G. Herbine.....	1888-90
William Addams.....	1813-16	Cyrus Levan.....	1888-90
George Shreffler.....	1814-17	Samuel R. Deppen.....	1888-90
Daniel Levan.....	1815-18	Cyrus W. Kauffman.....	1891-93
William High.....	1816-19	Jacob H. Reeser.....	1891-93
Peter Stichter.....	1817-20	Franklin Seidel.....	1891-93
George N. Lechner.....	1818-21	Jeremiah Hartman.....	1894-96
Peter Knabb.....	1819-22	Henry Stoyer.....	1894-96
David Bright.....	1820-23	John Wunch*.....	1894-96
George Kemp.....	1821-24	George K. Linderman.....	1896-99
Fred'k Stamm.....	1822-25	Wesley K. Loose.....	1897-99
Henry Reeser.....	1823-26	Charles E. Stangier.....	1897-99
John Wanner.....	1824-27	Alfred Gunkel.....	1900-02
John Fotteiger.....	1825-28	Frank H. Moyer.....	1900-02
John Hahn.....	1826-29	John W. Slipp.....	1900-02
Stanley Kirby.....	1827-30	Harry L. Johnson.....	1903-05
George Gernant.....	1828-31	Jacob Miller.....	1903-05
Anthony Bickel.....	1829-32	Oliver H. Sanders.....	1903-05
Daniel K. Hottenstein.....	1830-33	James M. Yerger.....	1906-08
John Filbert.....	1831-34	James F. Fisher.....	1906-08
Jacob Goodman.....	1832-35	Clester B. Cleaver.....	1906-08
Daniel Snyder.....	1833-36	Jacob M. Bordner.....	1909-11
John Deysher.....	1834-37	Augustus R. Anderson.....	1909-11
John Y. Cunniss.....	1835-38	Eugene I. Sandt.....	1909-11
John Seibert.....	1836-39		
David Kutz.....	1837-40		
Michael Reifsnyder.....	1838-41		
George Weiler.....	1839-42		
John Long.....	1840-43		
William Arnold.....	1841-44		
John Sharman.....	1842-45		
Adam Leize.....	1843-46		
Fred'k Printz.....	1844-47		
Michael Gery.....	1845-48		
David Yoder.....	1846-49		
Charles Fichthorn.....	1847-50		
Conrad Clouse.....	1848-51		
Thomas Shaner.....	1849-52		
Joseph A. Schneider.....	1850-53		
John McGowan.....	1851-54		
Benjamin Kutz.....	1852-55		
Jacob Young.....	1853-56		
Gabriel Filbert.....	1854-57		
William Knabb.....	1855-58		
Samuel Summons.....	1856-59		
D. L. Wenrich.....	1857-60; 1863-66		
William Miller.....	1858-61		
John F. Moers.....	1859-62		
Paul Wenrich, Sr.....	1860-63		
J. Donahower.....	1861		
George K. Lorah.....	1861-64		
H. R. Hawman.....	1862-65		
Adam Stein.....	1864-67		
Wm. S. Young.....	1865-71; 1879-81		
Jacob Schartel.....	1866-69		
Benjamin Levan.....	1867-70		
John L. Moyer.....	1869-72		
William Rahn.....	1870-73		
Joseph Muthart*.....	1871-74		
David Lord.....	1872-75		
Henry Seidel.....	1873-74		
William Fry.....	1873-75		
William Umberhauer.....	1874-75		
Henry W. Smith.....	1876-78		
William Davidheiser.....	1876-78		
William G. Moore.....	1876-78		
John Walborn.....	1879-81		

AUDITORS

Name	Term
Thomas Lightfoot.....	1797-98; 1802-05
William Moore.....	1797-1800; 1803-08
John Bishop.....	1797-98
Paul Groscup.....	1799-1800
Jacob Bower.....	1799-1800
William Green.....	1801-02
William Bell.....	1801-02; 1806-08
George De B. Keim.....	1801-02; 1809
James May.....	1803-05
John Wieman.....	1806-08
Lewis Reeser.....	1809
Fred'k Frick.....	1809
John Bieber.....	1810
George Boyer.....	1810-11
Daniel Yoder.....	1810
Christopher Shearer.....	1811; 1817-19
John S. Hiester.....	1811
George Lorah.....	1812
Philip Moyer.....	1812
John Adams.....	1812
Henry M. Richards.....	1813-16
William Addams.....	1813-14
Peter Trexler.....	1813
Abraham Mengel.....	1814-17
William High.....	1815-18; 1835-38
Peter High.....	1817-20
Peter Sheetz.....	1818-21
George Getz.....	1819-22
Jacob Dick.....	1820-23
Geo. U. Odenheimer.....	1821-24
Jacob Schneider.....	1822-25
Peter Adams.....	1823-26
Henry S. Klein.....	1824-27
Elijah Dechert.....	1825-28
John S. Pearson.....	1826-29
John Beitenman.....	1827-30
Simon Seyfert.....	1828-31
John Jackson.....	1829-32

* Muthart died in April, 1873, and Seidel was appointed to fill vacancy for unexpired term.

* John Wunch having died, George K. Linderman was appointed June 9, 1896, to serve unexpired term.

Name	Term
John Seltzer.....	1830-33
John M. Keim.....	1831-34
Daniel V. R. Hunter.....	1832; 1839-42
Thomas Wanner.....	1833-35
Jacob Klein.....	1833-36
Jacob Fricker.....	1834-37
Daniel Young.....	1836-39
William Wunder.....	1837-39
John L. Rightmyer.....	1838-41
H. H. Muhlenberg.....	1839-40
John F. Moers.....	1840-43; 1852-58
Jacob K. Boyer.....	1841-44
David Schall.....	1842-45
John L. Reifsnnyder.....	1843-46
Chas. H. Adams.....	1844-50
Jacob Dick.....	1845-48
Michael Kraemer.....	1846-49; 1864-67
Paul Geiger.....	1848-51
John Y. Cummins.....	1849-52
Charles J. Cummins.....	1850-56
Daniel Laucks.....	1851-54
Reuben R. Kline.....	1854-57
Samuel M. Klee.....	1856-62
Amos K. Strunck.....	1857-60
Henry F. Felix.....	1858-61
William Steffe.....	1860-63
Joseph S. Hoyer.....	1861-64
Ezra D. Yorgey.....	1862-65
Andrew Kurr.....	1863-69
John G. Glase.....	1865-68
James Bell.....	1867-79
Peter S. Albright.....	1868-71
William Y. Shearer.....	1869-72
Daniel G. Knabb.....	1870-75
Henry H. Dubson.....	1871-74
Harrison M. Reber.....	1872-75; 1876-78
Wm. H. Sallade.....	1875; 1876-78
Henry Z. Van Reed.....	1876-78
Jacob D. Hoffman.....	1879-81
Charles S. Tobias.....	1879-81
William H. Clark.....	1879-81
Isaac S. Bagenstose.....	1882-84
Jacob S. Yoder.....	1882-84
James M. High.....	1882-84
Morris H. Boyer.....	1885-87
Jared B. Kramer.....	1885-87; 1888-90
Allen B. Aulenbach.....	1885-87
Franklin G. Krick.....	1888-93
Reuben Rhoads.....	1888-90
Howard Spatz.....	1891-96
George F. Schock.....	1891-93
Nathan D. Trexler.....	1894-96
Edwin H. Weller.....	1894-99
Henry M. DeTurk.....	1897-1901
Peter Hartman.....	1897-1901
Charles B. Reis.....	1900-01

CONTROLLERS.—The Act of June 27, 1895, provided that counties of the State having 150,000 population shall elect a controller to take the place of county auditors, and it appearing by the United States census of 1900 that Berks county had a population in excess of 150,000, the Governor, on May 22, 1901, appointed Joseph N. Shomo as controller to serve until Jan. 6, 1902, when an incumbent duly elected would be qualified to fill the office.

CONTROLLERS

Name	Term
Joseph N. Shomo.....	1901
John F. Ancona.....	1902-04
Horace F. Livingood.....	1905-07
Ambrose L. Rhoads.....	1908-10

TREASURERS.—Previous to 1841 the county treasurer was appointed annually by the county commissioners. On May 27, 1841, an Act was passed providing for the election of this officer in October following and every two years thereafter. The Constitution of 1873 increased the term to three years after 1875.

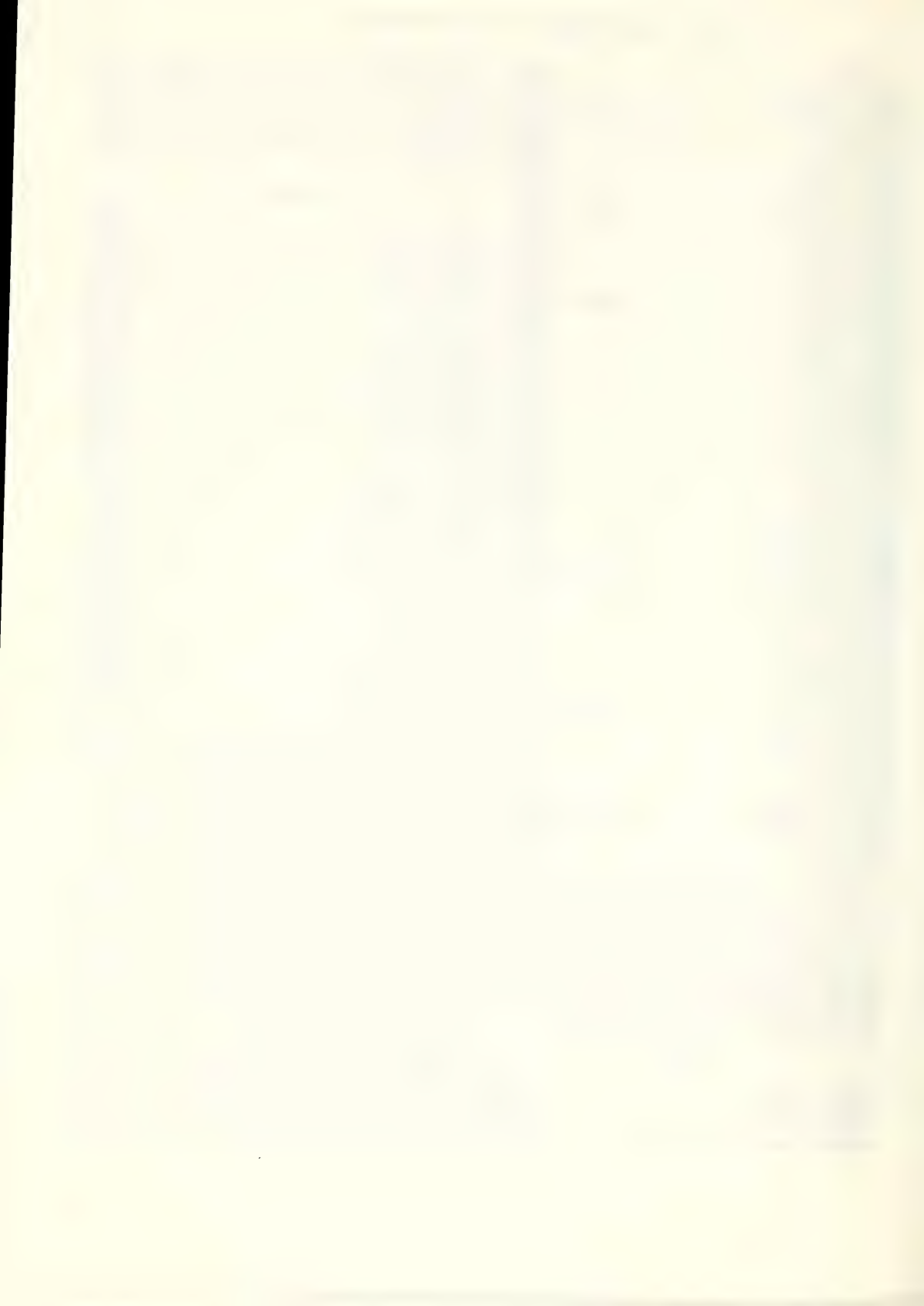
TREASURERS

Name	Term
Jonas Seely.....	1752-68
Christopher Witman.....	1768-79
Daniel Levan.....	1779-89
Daniel Messersmith.....	1789-1807; 1809-11; 1814-17
John K. Messersmith.....	1807-09; 1811-14; 1817-20
Daniel Rhoads.....	1820-23
David Bright.....	1823-35
Peter Nagle.....	1835-43
Henry Nagle.....	1843-45
William Arnold.....	1845-47
Henry Hahs.....	1847-49
Adam Leize.....	1849-51
William Ermentrout.....	1851-53
Charles Van Reed.....	1853-55
George Feather.....	1855-59
David Plank.....	1859-61
William Herbst.....	1861-63
John Kurtz.....	1863-65
Isaac R. Fisher.....	1865-67
Charles H. Fritz.....	1867-69
Samuel Merkel.....	1869-71
Abraham Y. Yoder.....	1871-73
Hiester M. Nagle.....	1873-75
Abraham H. Schaeffer.....	1876-78
Adam M. Dundore.....	1879-81
John Kerschner.....	1882-84
John S. Holtzman.....	1885-87
David W. Mogel.....	1888-90
Isaac F. March.....	1891-93
Amendon Bright.....	1894-96
Cosmos D. Kutz.....	1897-99
Alfred K. Rentschler.....	1900-02
Edwin C. Ruth.....	1903-05
Henry H. Fry.....	1905-08
William M. Croll.....	1909-11

SHERIFFS.—The Duke of Yorke's laws (introduced into Pennsylvania Sept. 22, 1676) provided for the nomination, by the justices of the county, of three persons within their jurisdiction, out of which the Governor should make choice of one to be sheriff for the year ensuing. By virtue of his office the sheriff was then a justice of the peace.

In the Frame of Government, prepared by William Penn for the province in 1682, it was provided that the freemen of the counties should annually elect and present to the Governor a double number of persons to serve for sheriff, justices, and coroner for the year next ensuing, out of which the Governor should nominate and commission the proper number for each office. After the erection of the county, the first appointments of sheriff and coroner were made Oct. 4, 1752.

The Constitution of 1790 provided for a similar election and appointment of sheriff and coroner; but the term of service was increased to three years, and no person was to be twice appointed sheriff in any term of six years. The Constitution of 1838 provided that one person for said offices respective-



ly should be elected by the people for the term of three years. And these offices have thence been so filled.

SHERIFFS

Name	Term
Benjamin Lightfoot.....	1752-54
William Boone.....	1755-56
Thomas Lincoln.....	1757-58
Jacob Weaver.....	1759-60; 1763-64
Henry Christ.....	1761-62
Jasper Scull.....	1765-67
Jacob Shoemaker.....	1768-70
George Nagle.....	1771-73
Henry Vanderslice.....	1774-76
Daniel Levan.....	1777-79
Henry Hoffa.....	1780-81
Philip Kraemer.....	1782-84; 1791-93
Peter Filbert.....	1785-87
Jacob Bower.....	1788-90
Peter Fraily.....	1794-96
John Christ.....	1797-99
Nicholas Dick.....	1800-02
John Spycker.....	1803-05
Conrad Feger.....	1806-08
George Marx.....	1809-11
Daniel Kerper.....	1812-14; 1824-26
Peter Aurand.....	1815-17
John Miller.....	1818-20
Henry Betz.....	1821-23
John Bickel.....	1827-29
James Sillyman.....	1830-32
Henry Bowman.....	1833-35
George Fox.....	1836-38
Henry Binkley.....	1838-41
Daniel Esterley.....	1841-44
George Gernant.....	1844-47
John S. Schroeder.....	1847-50
John Pottetiger.....	1850-53
John Manderbach.....	1853-56
Henry H. Manderbach.....	1856-59
Jeremiah D. Bitting.....	1859-62
Abraham R. Koenig.....	1862-65
Tobias Earto.....	1865-68
William B. Albright.....	1868-71
Evan Mishler.....	1871-74
George R. Yorgey.....	1875-77
Alfred C. Kemp.....	1878-80
Levi M. Gerhart.....	1881-83
George D. Boyer.....	1884-86
George B. Schaeffer.....	1887-89
Elias Becker.....	1890-92
George D. Fahrenbach.....	1893-95
Frank H. Schmeck.....	1896-98
Frank Brobst.....	1899-1901
Albert F. Mogel.....	1902-04
Jacob H. Sassaman.....	1905-07
John C. Bradley.....	1908-10

CORONERS

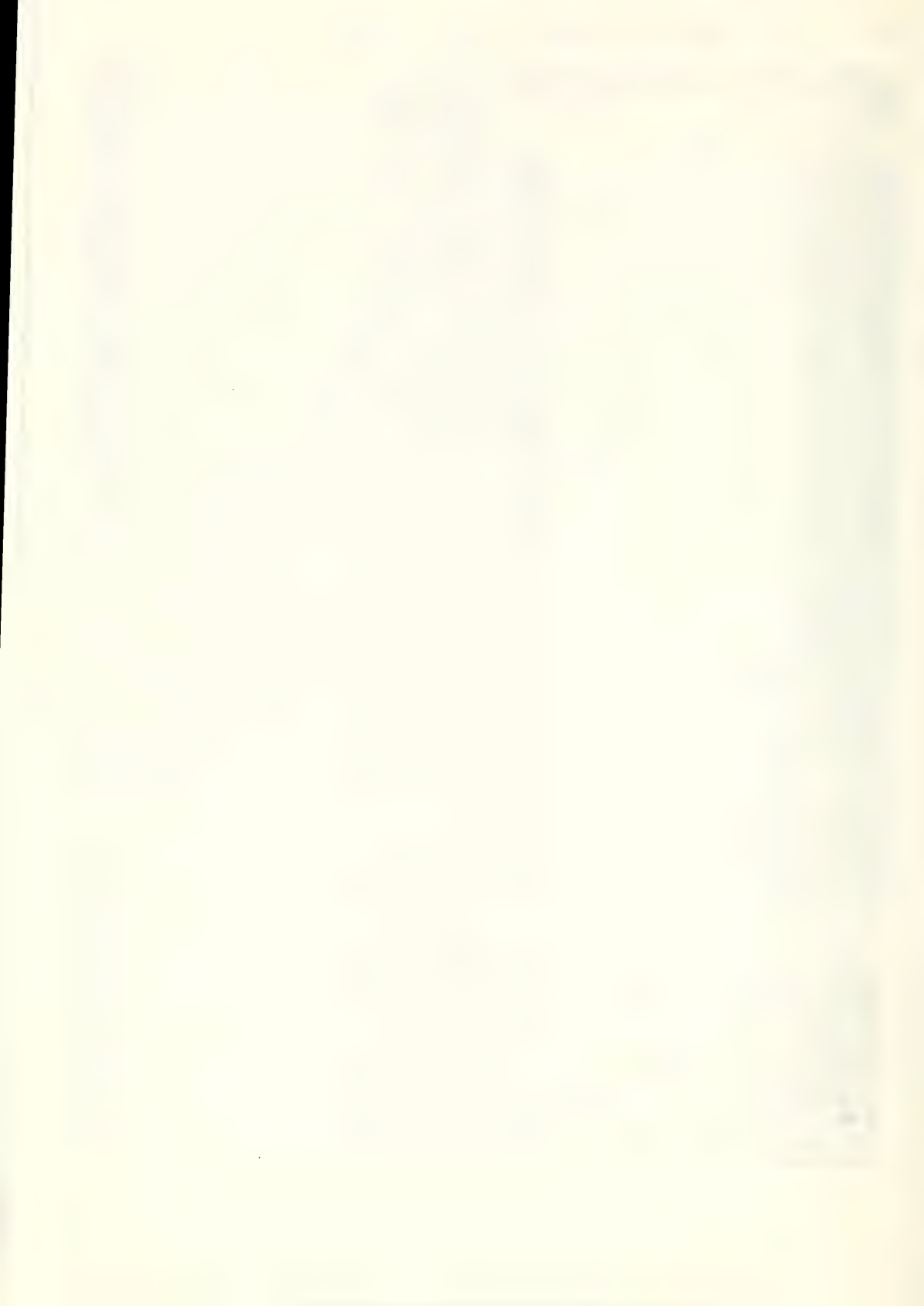
Name	Term
William Boone.....	1752-54
Benjamin Parvin.....	1755—
John Warren.....	1759
Jacob Kern.....	1760-61
Adam Witman.....	1762
Samuel Weiser.....	1763-65
Christopher Witman.....	1766
Henry Haller.....	1767
Jas. Whitehead, Jr.....	1768-69; 1779-80
Samuel Jackson.....	1770
Isaac Levan, Jr.....	1771-72
Peter Brecht.....	1773-75
Philip Kreamer.....	1776-78

Name	Term
Peter Nagle.....	1781-87
Peter Feather.....	1788-93
Thomas Wildbahn.....	1794-99
Peter Aurand.....	1800-02
Daniel Kerper.....	1803-05
Henry Rieser.....	1806-11
J. Christian.....	1812-14
Samuel Feather.....	1815-17; 1821-29
Samuel Ritter.....	1818-20
Adam Reitmeyer.....	1830-32
John Hahn.....	1833-34
John Fox.....	1835-37; 1859-64; 1878-76
William Stable.....	1838-49
John H. Seltzer.....	1850-52
William Keen.....	1853-58
Henry Palm.....	1865-67
Geo. S. Goodhart.....	1877-79
William H. Kelly.....	1880-82
Henry D. Schoedler.....	1883-85
Frank H. Denhard.....	1886-88
Dr. John G. Hoffman.....	1889-91
Dr. Frank J. Kantner.....	1892-94
John C. Griesemer.....	1895-97
Dr. Wilson H. Rothermel.....	1898-1900
Reuben E. Moyer.....	1901-03
Dr. Albert N. Seidel.....	1904-06
Dr. Robert E. Strasser.....	1907-09

PROTHONOTARIES, RECORDERS, REGISTERS, CLERKS OF ORPHANS' COURT, AND CLERKS OF QUARTER SESSIONS.—The offices of prothonotary, recorder, register, clerk of Orphans' court, and clerk of Quarter Sessions were created with the county courts. Immediately after the erection of Berks county, they were established at the county-town, and filled by appointment of the Governor. The Amended Constitution of 1838 changed the manner of filling the offices named from appointment by the Governor to election by the people; and the Act of July 2, 1839, fixed the term of office at three years. The first officers were elected in October, 1839. No change has been made since. From that time, the terms of the officers began on the 1st day of December following their election till the adoption of the New Constitution, when the time was changed to the first Monday of January following their election. This change included also the other county officers.

PROTHONOTARIES

Name	Term
James Read.....	1752-75; 1777
Thomas Dundas.....	1776
Jacob Shoemaker.....	1778
Daniel Levan.....	1779-80; 1791
John Otto.....	1790
George Eckert.....	1792-1800
John S. Hiester.....	1801-08
Gabriel Hiester, Jr.....	1809-17
Samuel D. Franks.....	1818
John Adams.....	1819-20; 1824-26; 1839-35
Marks John Biddle.....	1821-23
Jacob Sallade.....	1827-29
Alex. H. Witman.....	1836-38
Benj. Tyson.....	1839-42
Daniel Young.....	1842-45
Peter Strohecker.....	1845-48
Michael K. Boyer.....	1848-51
Charles H. Hunter.....	1851-54
Josiah Hearing.....	1854-57
David Fister.....	1857-60
Adam W. Kaufman.....	1860-63
Jonathan L. Reber.....	1863-66



Name	Term
Wellington B. Griesemer.....	1866-69
George K. Levan.....	1869-72
Ephraim Armstrong.....	1872-75
Charles F. Rentschler.....	1876-78
Amos Weiler.....	1879-81
William D. Althouse.....	1882-84
Levi F. Dietrich.....	1885-87
Daniel H. Schweyer.....	1888-90
Joshua R. Burkey.....	1891-93; 1894
William H. B. Schoenly*.....	1894
Oliver J. Wolff.....	1895-97
Daniel R. Schmeck.....	1898-1900
John G. Rhoads.....	1901-03
Edward J. Morris.....	1904-06
Eldridge Zimmerman.....	1907-09

RECORDERS

Name	Term
James Read.....	1752-76
Henry Christ.....	1777-89
John Christ.....	1790-91
Jacob Bower.....	1792-99
Peter Frailey.....	1800-08
Jacob Schneider.....	1809-17
John Adams.....	1818
Daniel Rhoads.....	1819-20
John Miller.....	1821-23; 1830-35
John Fred'k Smith.....	1824-29
Joseph Allgaier.....	1836-38
John Green.....	1839
William Wunder.....	1839-42
Henry H. Maurer.....	1842-45
John W. Tyson.....	1845-48
Israel R. Laucks.....	1848-51
John Bush.....	1851-54
Hiram S. Getz.....	1854-57
Nicholas Heckman.....	1857-60
Charles N. Keller.....	1860-63
Isaac Laucks.....	1863-66
Henry Reider.....	1866-69
Daniel Hummel.....	1869-72
Charles Hill.....	1872-75
Jefferson M. Keller.....	1876-78
William Zimmerman.....	1879-81
Isaac M. Bechtel.....	1882-84
W. Berton Stolz.....	1885-87
James F. Dunn.....	1888-90
Simpson Becker.....	1891-93
Isaac W. Keintz.....	1894
Amos F. Dunn.....	1894
James W. Sponagle.....	1895-97
Daniel H. Kieser.....	1898-1900
Frank F. Bressler.....	1901-03
Henry H. Holzman.....	1904-06
Jeremiah A. Bausher.....	1907-09

REGISTERS

Name	Term
James Read.....	1752-74
Collinson Read.....	1775-76
Henry Christ.....	1777-89
John Christ.....	1790-91
Jacob Bower.....	1792-99
Peter Frailey.....	1800-08
Jacob Schneider.....	1809-17
Daniel Rhoads.....	1818-20; 1824-29
Peter Aurand.....	1821-23
George Smith.....	1830-35
William Zieber.....	1836-38
Joel Ritter.....	1839-42
John Green.....	1842-45
Isaac Ely.....	1845-48
Joseph Ritter.....	1848-51
Jacob Snell.....	1851-54
Daniel Buskirk.....	1854-57

* Died on March 11, 1894, and the Deputy Joshua R. Burkey was appointed to fill office until first Monday of January, 1895.

† Died April 17, 1894

Name	Term
Tobias Barto.....	1857-60
Benjamin E. Dry.....	1860-63
Michael S. Thirwechter.....	1863-66
J. Daniel Wanner.....	1866-69
Hiram S. Getz.....	1869-72
Henry C. Croll.....	1872-75
Peter Y. Edelman.....	1876-78
Solomon S. Kindt.....	1879-81
Jonas M. Shollenberger.....	1882-84
Ammon S. Strunk.....	1885-87
Albert H. Fegely.....	1888-90
Henry D. Strunk.....	1891-93
William H. Schaffner.....	1894-96
George B. Miller.....	1897-99
Levi S. Mabry.....	1900-02
William R. Kemmerer.....	1903-05
Wilson M. Dunn.....	1906-08
George R. Gregory.....	1909-11

CLERKS OF ORPHANS' COURT

Name	Term
James Read.....	1752-76
Henry Christ.....	1777-88
James Scull.....	1789-91
Jacob Bower.....	1792-99
Peter Frailey.....	1800-09
John M. Hyneman.....	1810-15
John Adams.....	1816-17
William Schoener.....	1818-22
Matthias S. Richards.....	1823
Jacob Sallade.....	1824-26; 1830-31
Nathaniel P. Hobert.....	1827-29
Jacob Marshall.....	1832-35
Henry Rhoads.....	1836-38
William H. Miller.....	1839-41
James Donagan.....	1842
William Shearer.....	1842-45
Zacharias H. Maurer.....	1845-48
William W. Diehl.....	1848-51
Charles J. Wink.....	1851-54
Daniel Potteiger.....	1854-57
Ephraim Fritz.....	1857-60
Daniel Hahn.....	1860-63
Solomon Close.....	1863-66
Levi H. Liess.....	1866-69
Mahlon F. Wolff.....	1869-72
Isaac K. Knoll.....	1872-75
Charles M. Clouse.....	1876-78
Ephraim Dunkle.....	1879-81
William H. Gilmer*.....	1882-83

CLERKS OF QUARTER SESSIONS

Name	Term
James Read.....	1752-76
James Whitehead.....	1777-78
Henry Christ.....	1779
Daniel Levan.....	1780-91
George Eckert.....	1792-99
John S. Hiester.....	1800-08
Gabriel Hiester, Jr.....	1809-12; 1814-17
John M. Hyneman.....	1813
Samuel D. Franks.....	1818
John Adams.....	1819-20
Henry M. Richards.....	1821-22
Jacob Marshall.....	1823
Jacob Sallade.....	1824-26
Nathaniel P. Hobert.....	1827-29
Philip A. Good.....	1830-32
William Schoener.....	1833-35
Charles Troxell.....	1836-38
William H. Miller.....	1839
Samuel Myers.....	1839-42
John L. Rightmyer.....	1842-51
Zacharias H. Maurer.....	1851-54
Edwin H. Brockway.....	1854-57
Joseph S. Hoyer.....	1857-60

* Upon the establishment of a separate Orphans' Court in 1853, this officer was discontinued, and the Register became the Clerk, as provided by law.

Name	Term
James Bell	1860-63
Francis Roland	1863-66
Levi M. Gerhart	1866-69
Adam H. Sailor	1869-72
Jacob H. Hain	1872-75
Mahlon A. Sellers	1876-78
Enoch S. Matthias	1879-81
Isaac Eckert	1882-84
Morris H. Shaeffer	1885-87
Henry G. Henly	1888-90
William H. Sallade	1891-93
Henry H. Holl*	1894-95
Edwin T. Brown	1895
Harry J. Dunn	1896-93
Daniel A. Bausher	1899-1901
Jacob B. Esser	1902-04
Peter S. Holl	1905-07
Samuel T. Bordner	1908-10

Name	Term
William L. Graul	1875-77
John Denhard*	1878-80
Lawrence P. Ressler	1883—
James P. Kershner	1884-86
George Kramer	1887-89
John Wunch	1890-92
Frank H. Denhard	1893-95
Henry C. W. Matz**	1895
William Bauknecht	1896-98
James P. Kershner	1899-1900
Daniel J. McDermott	1901
Eugene W. Fegeley	1902-04
James J. Merkel	1905-10

SURVEYORS.—The office of surveyor-general of the State was created April 9, 1781; and this officer was then empowered to appoint a deputy or deputies in any county of the State. The first appointment of a deputy-surveyor for Berks county was made in 1800. One deputy was appointed from that time to 1834, when two deputies were appointed. The appointment of two was continued till the passage of the Act of April 9, 1850, which provided for the election of a county surveyor in October following, for the term of three years, and every third year thereafter, and since 1850, this officer has been elected by the people.

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

Name	Term
Jacob Hubley	1789-1817
Frederick Smith	1818-20; 1824-27
Charles Richards	1821
Daniel J. Hiester	1822-23
Joseph H. Spayd	1828-29
Joseph D. Biles	1830-31
Alexander L. King	1832-33
George G. Barclay	1836-38
J. Pringle Jones	1839-46
Peter Filbert	1847-48
John S. Richards	1849-50
Jeremiah Hageman	1850-56
Jacob K. McKenty	1856-59
James B. Bechtel	1859-62
Daniel Ermentrout	1862-65
Wharton Morris	1865-68
Edward H. Shearer	1868-71
Peter D. Wanner	1871-74
Henry C. G. Reber	1875-77
William M. Goodman	1878-89
Hiram Y. Kauffman	1881-83
Israel H. Rothermel	1884-86
Jeremiah K. Grant	1887-89
W. Oscar Miller	1890-92
Frank K. Flood	1893-95
Adam B. Rieser	1896-98
Abraham H. Rotlermel	1899-1901
George W. Wagner	1902-04
Ira G. Kutz	1905-07
Harry D. Schaeffer	1908-10

SPECIAL DETECTIVES.—An Act was passed May 19, 1874, which provided for the appointment of a special detective officer in the several counties of the State, by the district attorney, with the approval of the court of Quarter Sessions. The first appointment was made in February, 1875. The officers were:

* Died April 4, 1895.

SURVEYORS

Name	Term
Joseph Hoch	1800-13
John M. Hyneman	1814-22
Matthias S. Richards	1823-34
Daniel A. Bertolette	1835-37
Thomas H. Jones	1837-38
Aaron Albright	1838
Michael K. Boyer	1839-44
Benjamin DeLong	1839-49
Daniel J. Wanner	1841-47
Daniel Potteiger	1845-50
Samuel Hoffman	1848-50
Augustus F. Bertolet	1850-56
Andrew Kurr	1856-62
Daniel S. Zacharias	1862-77; 1881
Henry C. Zacharias	1877-80
Solomon K. Dreibelbis	1882-1901
Nevin M. Davis	1902-04
Orlando F. Berger	1905-10

POOR DIRECTORS.—Previous to 1809, "overseers" of the poor were appointed by the justices of the county. On March 11, 1809, an Act was passed authorizing the election of the overseers annually. The poor of the county were provided for by overseers till the passage of an Act of Assembly on March 29, 1824, especially for Berks county, whereby the county commissioners were authorized to levy a tax for the purpose of purchasing land and erecting thereon and furnishing necessary buildings for the employment and support of the poor of the county; and seven directors were appointed to proceed in the establishment of the institution. At the following election, in October of that year, three directors were elected in pursuance of the Act—one for one year, one for two years, and one

* John Denhard was appointed for a second term, 1881-83; but he was elected to the office of Alderman of the Eighth Ward, Reading, in May, 1883, when he resigned, and Lawrence P. Ressler was appointed for the unexpired term.

** From Aug. 23, 1895, to fill vacancy caused by death of Frank H. Denhard.

for three years; and annually after said election one director was elected for three years. This law has not been altered. The directors appointed a steward and other officers annually, to superintend and carry on the management of the institution successfully. The board organizes annually on third Monday of November.

The first seven directors appointed by the Act to serve till the election of three directors as required were:

John Ritter	John Beitenman
Jacob Mast	Samuel Adams
David Bright	John Wanner
Abraham Knabb	

DIRECTORS

Name	Term
John Beitenman	1824-25
Daniel K. Hostenstein	1824-26
David Bright	1824-27
George Gernant	1825-28
John Levan	1826-29
George Boyer	1827-30
David Ludwig	1828-31
David Deysher	1829-32
Henry Reeser	1830-33; 1835-36
Daniel Oyster	1831-34
Joseph Schmucker	1832-35
John Bickel	1833-35
Jacob Gilbert	1834-37
John Filbert	1835-38
Henry Schoener	1836-39
Daniel Kauffman	1837-38
William Fisher	1838-40
Peter Fister	1838-41
Abraham Kerper	1839-42
John Shollenberger	1840-43
Jacob W. Seitzinger	1841-44
Abraham Kerper	1842-45
Daniel Baum	1843-45
William Bertolet	1844-47
John Dotterer	1845-46
Michael Nunnemacher	1845-48
John Gernant	1846-49
Daniel Sohl	1847-48
Conrad Reber	1848-49
Jacob S. Ebling	1848-51
Peter Kershner	1849-53
William Knabb	1849-52
William Arnold	1850-57
William Lorah	1852-55
John Richards	1853-56
John R. Edelman	1855-58
George K. Haag	1856-59
Jacob Malsberger	1857-60
Samuel Shaner	1858-61
Samuel Filbert	1859-62
Aaron Getz	1860-66
R. F. Drumheller	1861-64
Peter Marshall	1862-65
Ezra Z. Griesemer	1863-67
George Lash	1865-68
Joseph Muthart	1866-69
Silas W. Fisher	1867-70
Daniel B. Lorah	1868-71
Jacob B. Mast	1869-72
Daniel Y. Peter	1870-73
Henry Ammon	1871-74
Michael Goodman	1872-75
Samuel Strunk	1873-76
Isaac Y. Beidler	1874-77
George Heckman	1875-78
John Herbein	1876-79
Mahlon Vogelman	1877-80
Francis Roland	1878-81

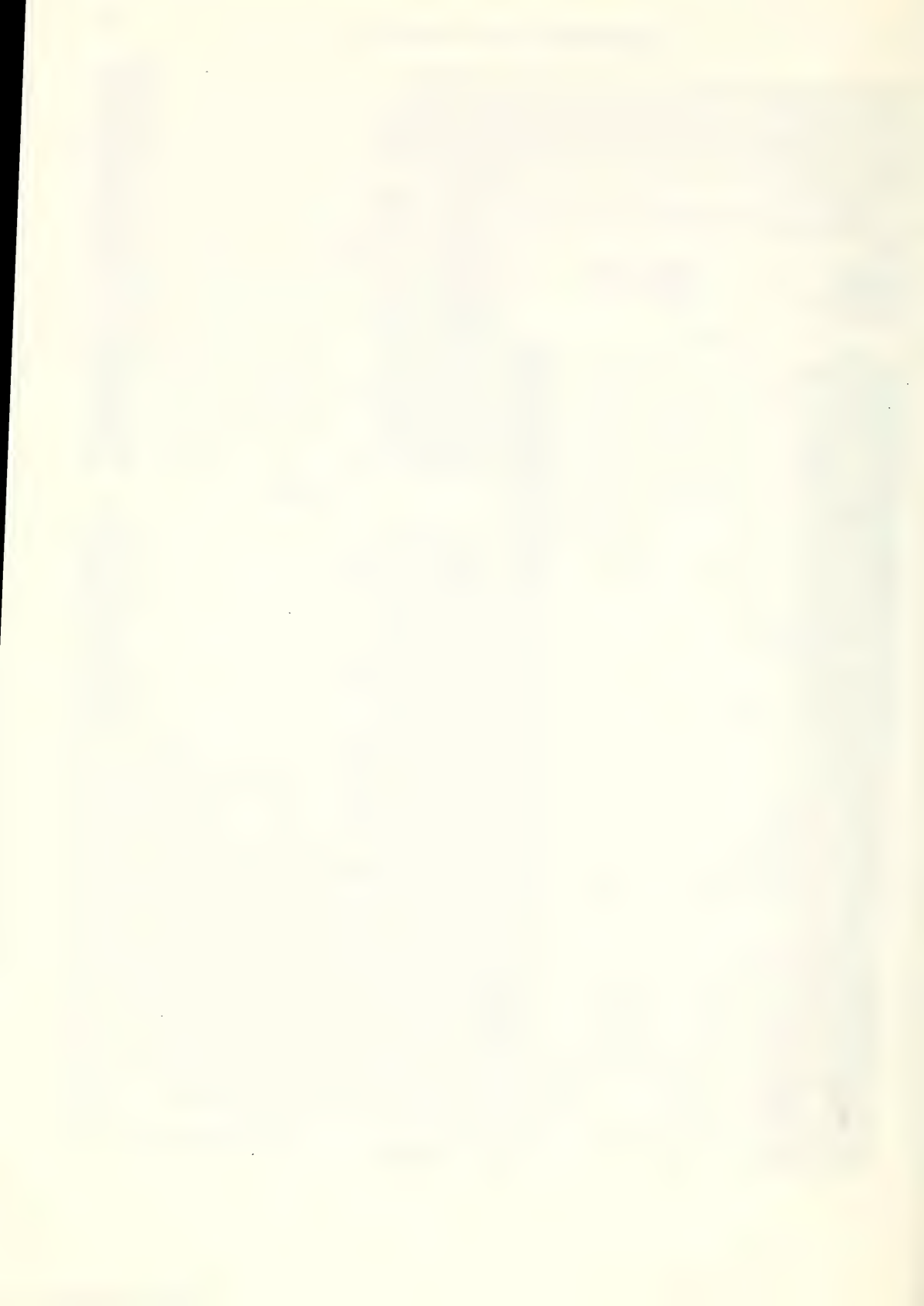
Name	Term
John H. Bauer	1879-82
Elias Obold	1880-83
Elias Bickel	1881-84
Henry Shearer	1882-85
John P. F. Marshall	1883-86
Michael E. Geiger	1884-87
George Herbein	1885-88
Jacob Miller	1886-89
Isaac D. Whitman	1887-90
Abraham Schlegel	1888-91
Samuel Z. Deck	1889-92
Frederick Roland	1890-93
Milton H. De Long	1891-93
William H. Seitzinger	1892-95
Tilghman De Long	1893-94
John A. Hiester	1893-1902
Jonathan Schwartz	1894-97
Harrison S. Matz	1895-98
Daniel M. Herbein	1897-1900
Cornelius Blatt	1898-1901
William M. Kase	1900-03
John W. Fisher	1901-04
Wellington G. Woods	1902-05
Jacob Hollenbach	1903-06
Jacob Kessler	1904-07
George G. Ritter	1905-08
Peter H. Knabb	1906-09
William W. Field	1907-10
Joel Krick	1908-11

STEWARDS

Name	Term
Abraham Knabb	1825-32
Henry Boyer	1833-37
Marshall B. Campbell	1838
Daniel Kauffman	1839-45
Daniel Baum	1846-48
Daniel Sohl	1849-52
Jacob Conrad	1853-68
Philip Eagle	1869-70
Silas W. Fisher	1870-77
Benjamin Anderson	1878-82
Reuben Hetrich	1883-95
Joseph Hornberger	1885-92
John W. Gilbert	1892-96
Oliver C. Sittler*	1896-1905
William J. Hollenbach	1905-09

PRISON INSPECTORS.—The first county prison was erected in 1770. It stood at the northeast corner of Fifth and Washington streets, Reading, until 1848, and upon the completion of the new prison at the head of Penn street the prisoners were removed thither, and the old prison was sold and converted into a store building. The walls are still standing, though changed. Under the law then prevailing, the sheriff had control of the prison during his official term; and he was authorized to appoint keepers. This practice continued till the passage of the Act of April 8, 1848, expressly for Berks county, whereby seven prison inspectors were to be appointed, four by the judges of the court of Quarter Sessions, and three by the county commissioners, who were to comprise the "board of inspectors," the terms of office to be as follows: for three, three years; two, two years; and two, one year; and afterward, all terms three years. The inspectors were authorized to appoint, with sanction of the court, a keeper, matron, etc.

* Sittler resigned on April 7, 1905, and Hollenbach was appointed on April 15th to fill unexpired term.



This Act of Assembly continued in force till the passage of the Act of April 10, 1873, whereby nine inspectors were to be elected at the next regular election, when each elector was to vote for six candidates, and the nine highest to be the inspectors. The elected candidates were to draw lots for one, two, and three years. And annually thereafter, three inspectors were to be elected for three years, the electors to vote for two, and the three having the highest vote to be the inspectors.

The following persons were the first inspectors under the Act of 1848:

Appointed by the Court Aug. 7, 1848

Name	Term
Jacob Lightfoot	3 yrs.
J. Glancy Jones	3 yrs.
William Heidenreich	2 yrs.
Thomas Shaner	1 yr.

Appointed by County Commissioners Aug. 10, 1848

Name	Term
John Banks	3 yrs.
Henry Nagle	2 yrs.
Charles Kessler	1 yr.

Appointed from 1848 to 1873

Name	Term
Jacob Lightfoot	1848-57
J. Glancy Jones	1848-51
William Heidenreich	1848-50
Thomas Shaner	1848-55
John Banks	1848-49
Henry Nagle	1848-59
Charles Kessler	1848-51
William Peacock	1849-51
David Fister	1850-53
J. Bowman Bell	1851-57
Lewis Briner	1851-64
Samuel Frees	1851-54
David Kutz	1852-68
William Henry	1854-60
Jacob Dick	1855-57
Daniel Young	1857-66
Abr. D. Hill	1857-66
Levi B. Smith	1858
James Lee	1858-64
Jacob Young	1859-71
Samuel Summons	1860-72
Charles H. Fritz	1864-70
Henry Z. Van Reed	1864-70
J. Glancy Jones	1864-68
David McKnight	1864-70
David L. Wenrich	1868-71
Amos Weiler	1868-69
Calvin Goodman	1869-72
Peter A. Kline	1869-72
George Lerch	1870-73
Joseph Ganser	1871-73
W. B. Griesemer	1872-73
William Grim	1872-73
Isaac R. Fisher	1872-73
Benjamin Levan	1873
Jacob Miller	1873

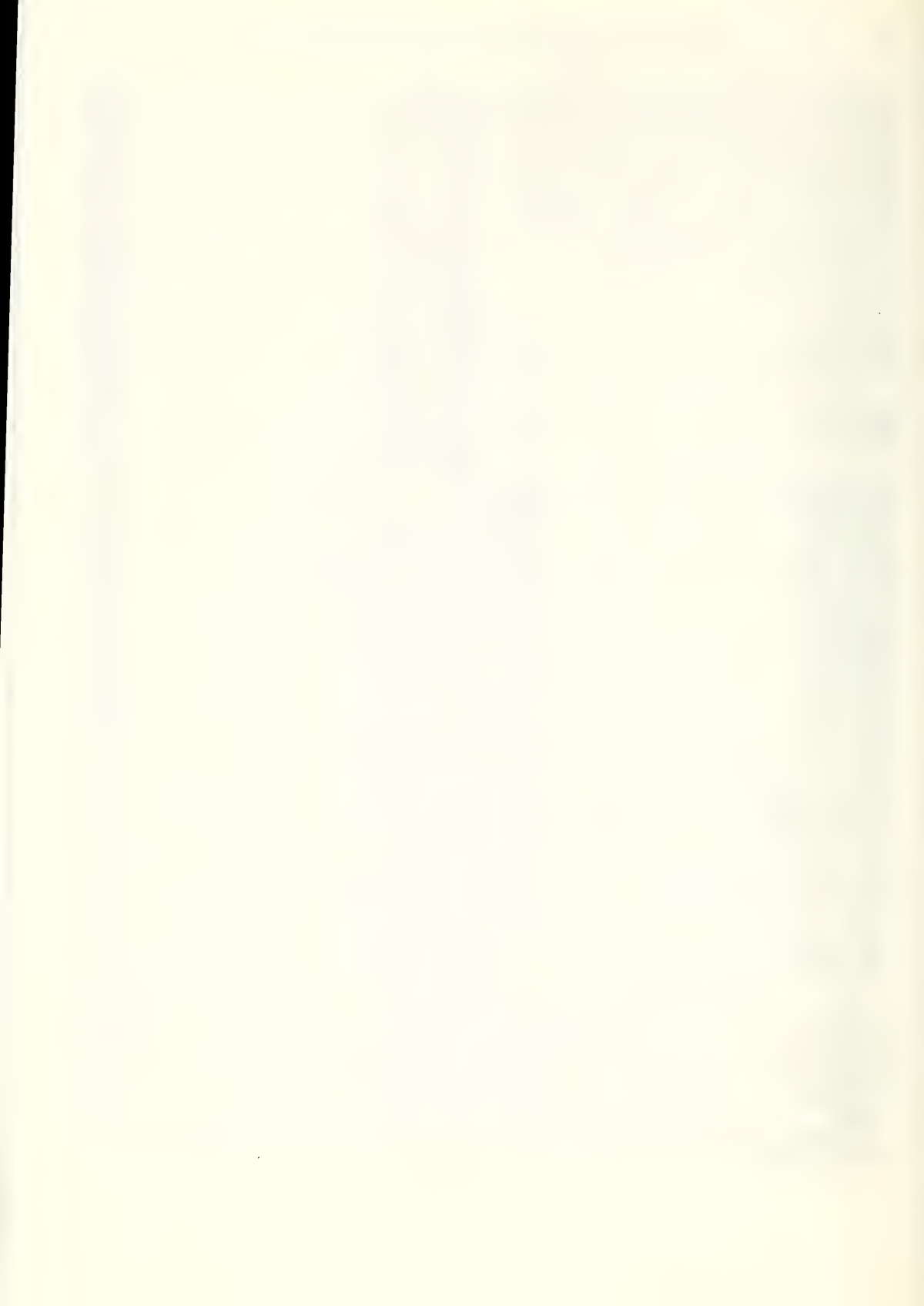
Elected under Act 1873 *

Name	Term
John Gernant	(1 yr.) 1873-74; 1874-77
Wm. Stump	(1 yr.) 1873-74; 1874-77
S. Schmehl	(1 yr.) 1873-74; 1878-81
Samuel Buch	(2 yrs.) 1873-75
Amendon Bright	(2 yrs.) 1873-75
William Herbst	(2 yrs.) 1873-75
W. Y. Lyon	(3 yrs.) 1873-76; 1876-79
Tobias Barto	(3 yrs.) 1873-76

*The first nine named comprised the first board elected in 1873. After organization, on the 1st day of December, lots were cast for the terms of these inspectors. The board organizes annually on the 1st day of December.

Name	Term
Jacob Miller	(3 yrs.) 1873-76
Calvin Goodman	1873-77
Peter Rapp	1874-77
Jacob Shaffner	1875-78
Peter A. Kline	1875-78
Peter L. Hain	1875-78
James T. Reber	1876-79
Wm. S. Ritter	1877-82
Adam Minnich	1877-80
Daniel L. Rhoads	1877-80
David Brown	1877-80
Josiah Boltz	1878-81
Isaac H. Rahn	1878-81
Lewis L. Moyer	1879-82
John Stieff	1879-82
Adam H. Potteiger	1880-83
Charles S. Wentzel	1880-83
Milton T. Donnemoyer	1880-83
Wm. D. Klopp	1881-84
Wm. A. Schall	1881-84
Wm. W. Lewis	1881-82
Wm. Schweitzer	1882-84
John Obold	1882-85
Henry Rieger	1882-85
Jacob S. Wisler	1882-85
John S. Wenrich	1883-86
Samuel H. Mensch	1883-86
Dallas Leinbach	1883-86
John B. Clemmer	1884-87
William H. Seitzinger	1884-87
Daniel D. Hinterleiter	1884-87
John H. Obold	1885-94
Henry Rieger	1885-88
Wm. H. Wetherhold	1885-88
Franklin H. Brintzeghoff	1886-92
Levi M. Neischwender	1886-89
Wilson Sweitzer	1886-89
Charles S. Dengler	1887-93
Reuben Updegrove	1887-90
Joseph B. Clemmer	1887-90
John Mayer	1888-91
William High	1888-91
Albert Stamm	1889-95
John M. Gift	1889-92
William A. Lindemuth	1890-93
Darius E. Sheidy	1890-91
Augustus B. Forrey	1891-93
John M. Smith	1891-94
David E. Snyder	1891-94
Charles H. Knabb	1892-94
Abraham Grimes	1892-98
Henry Z. Kramer	1893-96
Amos Glass	1893-99
Levi S. Reber	1893-96
George H. Nagle	1894-1900
John H. Kintzer	1894-97
Alexander Schlottman	1894-97
John Endy	1894-95
Urias Rothenberger	1895-98
Lenious Wessner	1895-97
Isaac L. De Turck	1897-98
George Clous	1896-99
George B. Wagner	1896-99
Joel H. Krick	1897-1906
John L. Sciders	1897-1903
Daniel Gross	1898-1907
John Warren	1898-1907
A. M. Leshner	1898-1901
Daniel F. Kramer	1899-1905
I. Heber Witman	1899-1911
Edmund A. Schenck	1899-1902
Martin Hauck*	1900-05
Allen W. Fritch	1901-01
Albert Seiwert	1902-05

*Died April 12, 1905, and Charles P. Saylor appointed to fill unexpired term.



Name	Term
Israel H. Wentzel.....	1903-09
David K. Manmiller.....	1904-10
John Warren.....	1904-10
David B. Gross.....	1904-07
Charles P. Saylor.....	1905-09
Jacob S. Kelchner.....	1905-08
Nathan K. Dundore.....	1906-09
John H. Rhoads.....	1907-10
Henry G. Hoyer.....	1908-11
Edmund A. Shenk.....	1908-11

PRISON WARDENS

Name	Term
Mahlon Bertolet.....	1849-53
Dr. Henry Tyson.....	1853-65
Joseph Ganser.....	1865-70
Daniel S. Francis.....	1870-73
Thomas Will.....	1873-76
Isaac K. Knoll.....	1876-79
Adam B. Brossman.....	1879-82
Dr. R. B. Rhoads.....	1882-85
Aaron M. Wenrich.....	1885-88; 1898-99
Isaac D. Lutz.....	1888-91
Samuel H. Mensch.....	1891-92
John M. Smith.....	1892-95
Isaac Y. Kintzer.....	1895-98
William W. Newcomet*.....	1899-1904
Jeremiah M. DeTurk.....	1904-09

JURY COMMISSIONERS.—Before 1867 the jurors for the trial of cases in the several courts of the county were selected from the qualified electors by the county commissioners and the sheriff. On April 10, 1867, a general Act was passed for the State requiring the election of two jury commissioners in October following, for the term of three years, and every third year thereafter, for the purpose of selecting jurors from the qualified electors. The Act provides that each elector shall vote for one person for this office, and the two persons having the highest vote shall be the commissioners. They are to select a number designated by the court, and place the names in a jury wheel in the presence of a Judge of the court; and they and the sheriff are to draw panels of jurors as grand, petit, and traverse jurors of the county as theretofore. The number generally designated for the jury wheel previous to 1875 was a thousand names; then, upon the introduction of an additional law judge, the number was increased to twelve hundred. Since 1867 the jurors for the quarterly terms of the several courts of the county were selected and drawn as mentioned, by the following commissioners, who were elected for that purpose:

Name	Term
George W. Bruckman } Charles J. Faber }	1867-70
Zacharias H. Maurer } Joseph Brelsford }	1870-73
Israel R. Laucks } Samuel U. Hollenbach }	1873-76
Michael K. Boyer } Reuben Rhoads }	1877-79
Henry Graul } Edward H. Harner† } Jacob K. Sterrett }	1880-82

* Died in office June 27, 1904, and Jeremiah H. DeTurk, the deputy-warden, was appointed July 3th to fill the vacancy.

† Edward H. Harner removed from the county, and J. K. Sterrett was appointed Feb. 26, 1881, for unexpired term.

Name	Term
Cosmos Swoyer } John B. Snyder }	1893-85
William G. Welder } Daniel Sheirer }	1896-88
Frank R. Wanner } Ephraim R. Wagner }	1899-91
Jacob A. Spangler } David Brown }	1892-94
Constantine Jones } John S. Wenrich }	1895-97
Constantine Jones } Kauffman C. Kurtz }	1898-1900
Constantine Jones } Adam S. Klee }	1901-03
J. Henry Burkhard } Elias W. Seidel }	1904-06
Isaac Barr.....	1907-10
William F. Renno.....	1907-10

MERCANTILE APPRAISERS.—Previous to 1846, only dealers in foreign merchandise were required to take out a county license to enable them to make sale thereof. But on April 22, 1846, an Act was passed requiring all dealers in goods, wares, and merchandise to take out a county license, and thereby the county commissioners of each county were empowered to appoint annually a mercantile appraiser, who was directed to assess and classify all dealers, and furnish a list of them to the county treasurer. From 1830 till this Act was passed, the constables of the townships, etc., of the county furnished under oath a list of the foreign dealers to the clerk of the Quarter Sessions, and the associate judges and county commissioners classified them and delivered a list to the county treasurer. Before 1830, the foreign dealers were returned by the constables to the clerk of the court of Quarter Sessions; the clerk certified the returns to the State treasurer, who forwarded a list to the county treasurer for the collection of the license fees.

In Berks county, the constables still made their returns for the years 1846 and 1847. The county commissioners made the first appointment for 1848.

MERCANTILE APPRAISERS

Name	Term
Mahlon Bertolet.....	1848
William Karns.....	1849-51
Adam Leiss.....	1852
Solomon Klohs.....	1853
J. H. Kelly.....	1854
Isaac S. Hottenstein.....	1855
Ephraim Fritz.....	1856
Daniel S. Kutz.....	1857
George K. Lorah.....	1858
Albert C. Henry.....	1859
Henry Reider.....	1860
Franklin S. Ludwig.....	1861
Henry R. Hawman.....	1862
Elias Filbert.....	1863
David Lord.....	1864
Caspar Reifsnyder.....	1865
William H. Kelly.....	1866
Andrew S. Strassburger.....	1867
Joseph Harvey.....	1868
John C. Reed.....	1869
Alfred Dreibellis.....	1870
Charles Hill.....	1871
Aaron Snyder.....	1872
Charles Hottenstein.....	1873



Name	Term
Abraham Schaeffer.....	1874
Henry F. Bush.....	1875
Jonathan L. Rhoads.....	1876
Michael Seltzer.....	1877
Benjamin Klahr.....	1878
Morris Guldin.....	1879
Edward Schmeltzer.....	1880
William A. Yeung.....	1881
Levi J. Fisher.....	1882
George M. Fryermuth.....	1883
Peter Spang, Jr.....	1884
John Stangier.....	1885
J. M. S. Stertzler.....	1886
Edwin Umbenhauer.....	1887
James P. Kershner.....	1888
Daniel P. Rothermel.....	1889
Cyrus E. Bollinger.....	1890
John S. Dunkle.....	1891
Elias R. Kemmerer.....	1892
Harry D. Wagner.....	1893
William D. Reeser.....	1894
Frederick Roland.....	1895
Peter H. Knabb.....	1896
J. Howard Eshelman.....	1897
John E. Stangier.....	1898
Jacob H. Sassaman.....	1899
Frederick Stephan, Jr.....	1900
Nathan Rothermel.....	1901
James Schlaesman.....	1902
John Z. Rieser.....	1903
Jacob Bordner.....	1904
Abraham B. Johnson.....	1905
William Sanders.....	1906
George Reider.....	1907
Charles Brintzgehoff.....	1908
John G. Herbein.....	1909

LICENSE COMMISSIONERS.—In 1676, the Duke of Yorke's laws required a license for the sale of liquors in the province of Pennsylvania. This was granted by two justices of the peace in the Quarter Sessions, for the term of one year, upon the applicant furnishing "a certificate of his good behavior from the constable and two overseers of the parish" wherein he dwelt. In 1710, the law required the application to be recommended by the justices of the county courts to the Governor, who issued the license. The number was unlimited. But in 1794, the law required the judges of the Quarter Sessions at the first session of every year thereafter to limit and declare the number of taverns and public houses to be licensed for the year following; and the judges were to have "regard to the particular neighborhoods and situations the most suitable for the accommodation of the inhabitants and travelers." The Governor still granted the licenses upon the proper recommendation; and he continued to grant them till the passage of the Act of March 8, 1815, when the judges of the Quarter Sessions issued them upon the recommendation of the applicant by twelve reputable citizens of the district in which the tavern was to be kept.

On April 23, 1869, an Act was specially passed for Berks county, whereby a board of license commissioners was created to issue licenses. The first board was composed of three members: the district attorney in office *ex officio*; one member appointed by the judges of the Quarter Sessions for

a term ending February, 1871; and the third by the county commissioners for a term ending February, 1873. And every two years after 1869, the court or commissioners were authorized to appoint a person for a term of four years. Licenses in the county were accordingly issued annually by this board till the law was repealed May 5, 1876.

In the year previous, on April 12, 1875, a general law to restrain and regulate the sale of liquors was passed by the Legislature for the State, excepting in those counties for which special provision was made. After the repeal of the Act of 1869, the court of Quarter Sessions issued licenses pursuant to the Act of 1875. And this is the law under which the licenses are still issued.

In respect to licenses a general Act was passed March 27, 1872, "to permit the voters of this State to vote every three years on the question of granting licenses to sell intoxicating liquors." The time for the first general election on the question in every city and county was fixed for the third Friday in March, 1873, and every third year thereafter on the day for the annual municipal elections. It will be observed that the time was set in the spring of the year, in order to obtain the expression of political sentiment uninfluenced by the general tide of opinion of the fall elections. One election was held, but before the first three years had expired the Act was repealed, on April 12, 1875.

The board, during the seven years in which the Act prevailed, comprised the following members:

<i>Ex officio, being the District Attorneys</i>		
Name		Term
Edward H. Shearer		1869-71
Peter D. Wanner		1871-74
Henry C. G. Reber		1874-76
<i>Appointees</i>		
Name		Term
Richard Ludwig		1869-73
John H. Snyder		1869-73
William Hines		1873-76
Elias Obold		1875-76

OIL INSPECTORS.—The office of oil inspector was created by the Act of May 15, 1874, "to provide for the better security of life and property from the dangers of coal and petroleum oils." By this Act the standard or fire test of all burning fluids was fixed at 110 degrees Fahrenheit. The inspector is appointed by the court of Common Pleas of the county for the term of three years; and he is required to furnish security in \$10,000 for the faithful discharge of his duties. The first appointment was made in August, 1877.

Charles A. Z. Griscemer was the first inspector. He was re-appointed in 1880, and again in 1883.

SEALERS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—In 1834, a law was enacted which required the Governor to furnish the county commissioners of each county with standards of weights and measures, which were to be used for the purpose of adjusting weights and measures; and these standards were to be examined, and, if necessary, corrected at least once in every ten years. The standards as required



were furnished to the county commissioners, and deposited in the Court-House for the purpose intended. But there was no provision for an officer whose duty it was to test all weights and measures. In 1845, this discrepancy was supplied by an Act passed on April 15th. It authorized the Governor to appoint a sealer of weights and measures for such respective counties as should apply for and obtain copies of the standards, as provided in this Act, for the term of three years. And it was made the duty of the sealer "at least once in every year to go to stores, houses, stalls, and offices of the makers, venders, or proprietors of beams, scales, weights, and measures within the county, and try and adjust all beams, scales, weights, and measures, and seal the same with the initials of his last or surname, and the current year." Under this law the first appointment was made on June 16, 1853. This office, however, became burdensome and offensive to the people of the county, and accordingly they, with the people of seven other counties of the State—Bucks, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lehigh, Montgomery, Franklin, and Westmoreland—who felt similarly burdened and offended, effected the passage of a Special Act on March 22, 1859, whereby the office within the counties named was abolished. After the lapse of eighteen years thereafter, it would seem that the weights and measures of this county, as well as other counties of the State, needed the test of the standards. So they were brought to the notice of the people again by the passage of a general law on April 4, 1877. By it the Governor was authorized to appoint one person as sealer, in the several counties where no such office existed, for the term of three years. The first appointment under this law was made April 30, 1877.

And strangely enough, as previously, the office only survived six years, and was again abolished, by an Act passed on March 8, 1883. The standards are, therefore, not carried around throughout the whole county to remind the dealers and storekeepers that they must at least give *true* measure, if not good, pressed down, and running over. The market commissioner of Reading, who visits the markets under the city ordinance, is the only tester now with the standards. The sealers were:

Name	Term
Michael S. Thirwechter	1853-54
Solomon Spohn	1855-57
George K. Boyer	1858
William Geiger	1877-78
Matthew Rhoda	1879-81
James D. Long	1882-83

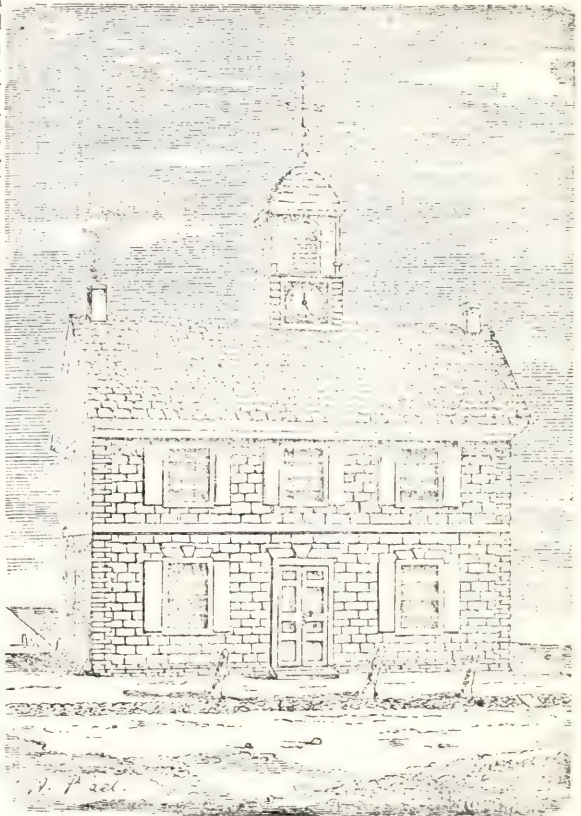
SUPERINTENDENTS OF COMMON SCHOOLS.—Numerous legislative attempts were made to popularize and thoroughly introduce public education. Fifty years were spent in endeavors to educate the poorer classes of children by proposed taxation, with comparatively little progress. Finally an Act was passed May 8, 1854, which made proceedings in this behalf compulsory, and authorized a school tax to

be levied, directors to be elected, etc., and to see that the branches of a common education were properly taught, teaching directed, established graded schools maintained, and uniformity in course of studies preserved; a county superintendent was to be elected for a term of three years by all the directors of the county. Since 1854 the system of education provided by the State has been carried on successfully in the county by school directors and a county superintendent, and the superintendents have been:

Name	Term
William Good	1854-60
John S. Ermentrout	1860-69
David B. Brunner	1869-75
Samuel A. Baer	1875-81
David S. Keck	1881-90
William M. Zechman	1891-96
Eli M. Rapp	1896-1911

COUNTY BUILDINGS

The county buildings comprise the Court-House, Prison, and Poorhouse.



OLD COURT HOUSE.

COURT-HOUSES.—The first Court-House of the county was erected in 1762, at the intersection of



Penn Square and Callowhill street, now Fifth. It was built of stone, plastered, and marked off in imitation of cut stone, and it was surrounded by a brick pavement about thirteen feet wide. The first floor was arranged in one large room for the "courts," and the second floor in three rooms—the eastern half having been in one room, and the western in two rooms. An entry separated the former from the latter. The stairway was constructed in the southeast corner of the court-room. The "bench" was arranged along the northern side of the room, and the "bar" was inclosed by a semi-circular railing, the ends of which extended to the wall on both sides of the "bench." The "jury box" was situated in the northwest corner of the room. The court-room was entered by two door-ways, one on the south side and the other on the west. The latter was little used. A large stove was located near by and wood was generally piled up against the door, on the inside, during cold weather.

The crier's seat was situated a few feet west of the center of the room, adjoining the "bar," and the "prisoner's dock" was next to it on the east. The crier was a prominent figure in the room by reason of the elevation of his seat.

The floor was laid with brick. Benches were arranged on inclined platforms along the southern and eastern walls. The seating capacity was rather limited for a public place. The dimensions of the building were about forty by fifty feet. A marble tablet was built in the eastern wall near the centre, which contained the following inscription;

J. L., C. W., S. H., 1762.

These initial letters represented the names of the officiating county commissioners, Jacob Lightfoot, Christopher Witman and Samuel High.

The steeple contained a bell and town-clock. The bell was cast in England in 1763, especially for the county; and the clock was a thirty-hour clock, imported from London about 1755.

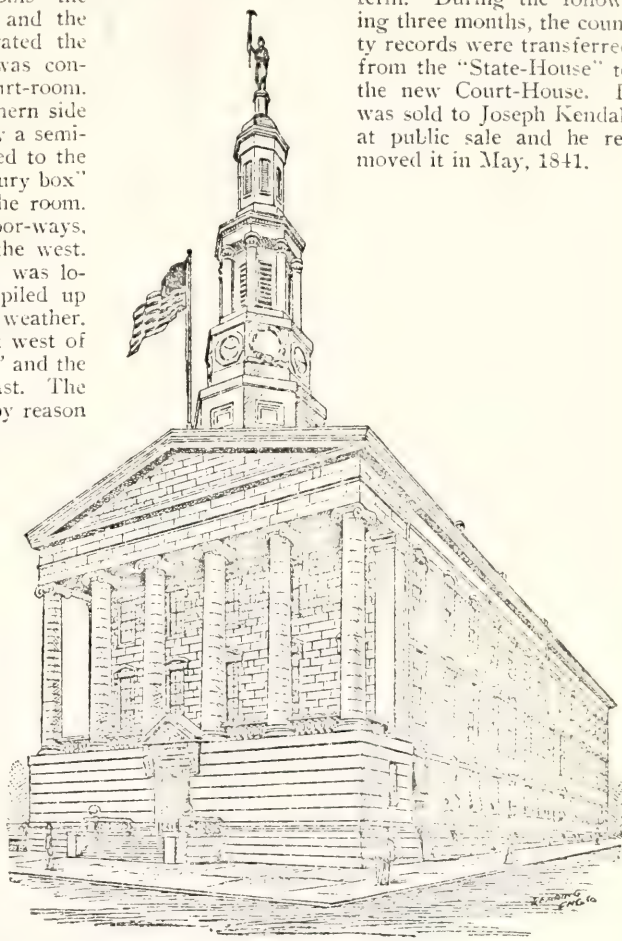
Previously, for ten years, the judges of the courts held their sessions of court in an inn of the town. There were no rooms in the building for the county officials, but many were not necessary, for five offices were vested in one individual for upward of twenty years, these having been prothonotary, recorder, register, clerk of the Orphans' court and clerk of the Quarter Sessions, and the person was James Read, a lawyer.

By a letter addressed to the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, dated the 20th of February, 1766, it would appear that "public offices were opened on Monday previous at Reading." It is not known in which building they were opened, if not in the Court-House.

Election polls were held at the several windows on the first floor, which were properly marked for

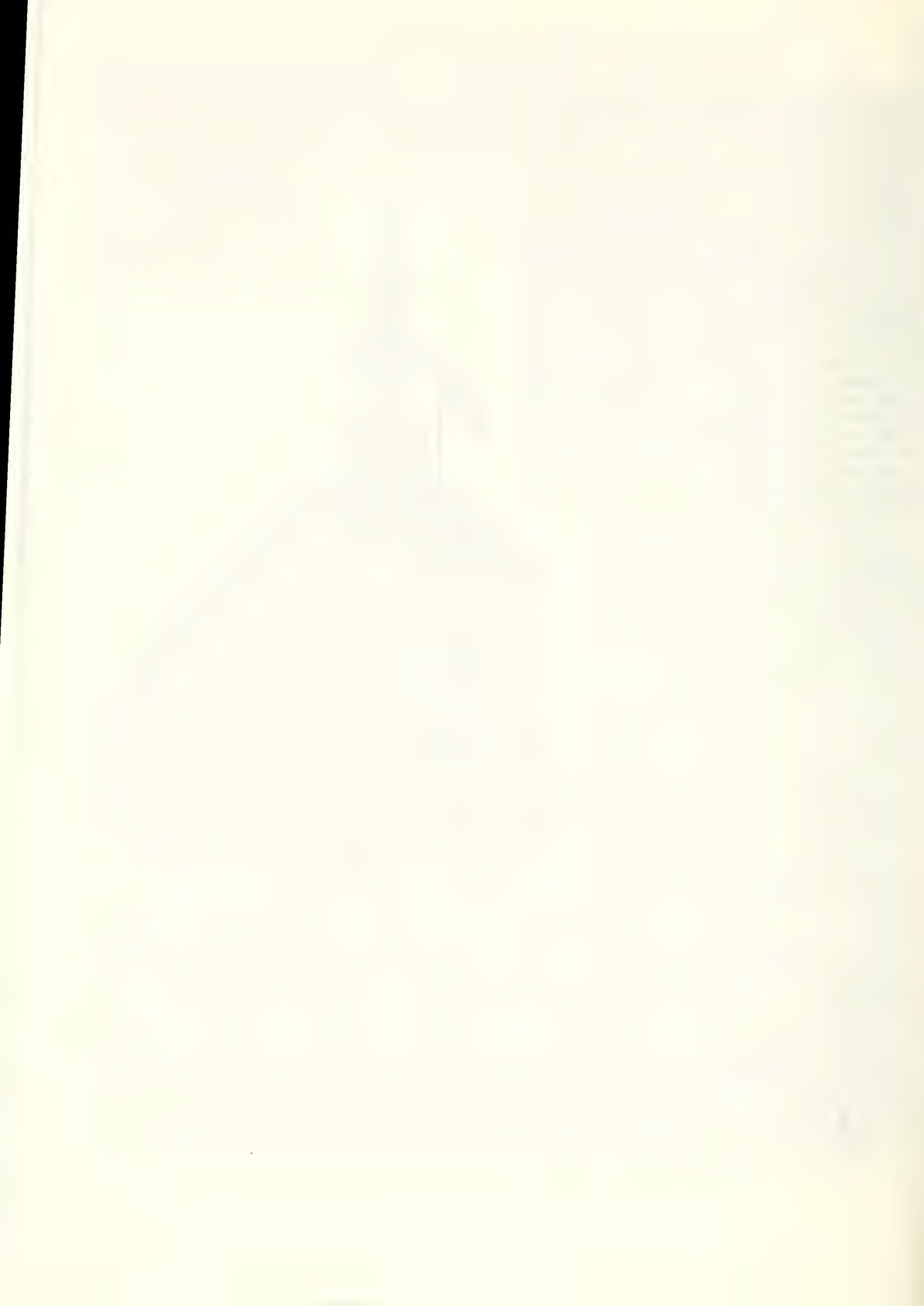
the voters. The poll for the electors of Reading was at the eastern window on the side facing south.

This building was used for the purposes of hearing and determining criminal and civil matters until 1840, the last term of court having been the April term. During the following three months, the county records were transferred from the "State-House" to the new Court-House. It was sold to Joseph Kendall at public sale and he removed it in May, 1841.



NEW COURT-HOUSE

The smallness of the old building had been felt for many years and the increasing inconvenience had become so objectionable by the year 1837 that the taxpayers and officials determined to remedy the difficulty by securing a new building, and in that behalf a petition was presented to the judges at the August Sessions, setting forth—"That, in consequence of the rapid increase of the population and public business of the county of Berks, the present Court-House has become too small and inconvenient for the transaction of business, and also for the accommodation of those persons who are obliged to attend court," and praying the court "to recom-



mend to the county commissioners the erection of the necessary buildings for the accommodation of the Court and the Public."

This petition was referred to the grand jury, and they recommended a new building, selecting the northeast corner of Fifth and Penn streets as the place for its erection. This return was approved by the court on Aug. 11, 1837, but the site was changed to the northeast corner of Sixth and Court streets, in order to obtain a larger lot for the proposed building. The county commissioners then purchased two adjoining lots (120 by 230 feet) and during the years 1838, 1839 and 1840 erected on the site the western half of the present three-story brick building which fronts on Sixth street, the dimensions being 62 feet wide, 118 feet long and 60 feet high. The total cost was \$63,000. A substantial fire-proof two-story extension was added at the rear in 1869; and this was subsequently enlarged, when numerous important improvements were introduced. The first session of court was held in it at August Term, 1840.

Gas was introduced for lighting purposes in May, 1849, shortly after the Reading Gas Co. had established its plant. Previously oil in lamps was used.

A new clock was placed in the steeple in October, 1851. The bell weighed nearly seventeen hundred pounds. From that time on, this has been the "town-clock," and town-bell for indicating "town-time." The clock-dials have been illuminated at night-time by electric light since 1895.

The first floor was arranged in four compartments, the corner room, facing the streets, having been occupied as an office by the sheriff; and the second floor in four compartments for prisoners. The sheriff and family occupied the remaining rooms of the building; and this practice was continued till the prison system was changed by special legislation for Berks county, in 1848. The property was sold on Feb. 5, 1849, to William Rhoads, for \$7,460, and by him converted into a store. It has been occupied for store purposes ever since.

A new prison was erected on the "Common," at the head of Penn street, by the county commissioners in 1847-48, at a cost of \$17,000. It is constructed of stone from Penn's Mount, and is situated on a lot of ground 170 by 300 feet, which is inclosed on the north, east and west by a high stone wall. The tower is 96 feet high. It is still standing, a fine specimen of superior workmanship.

An addition, or "annex," was erected at the rear in 1869. The total number of cells is 94—in the main part, 44, and in the annex, 50; arranged in two stories.

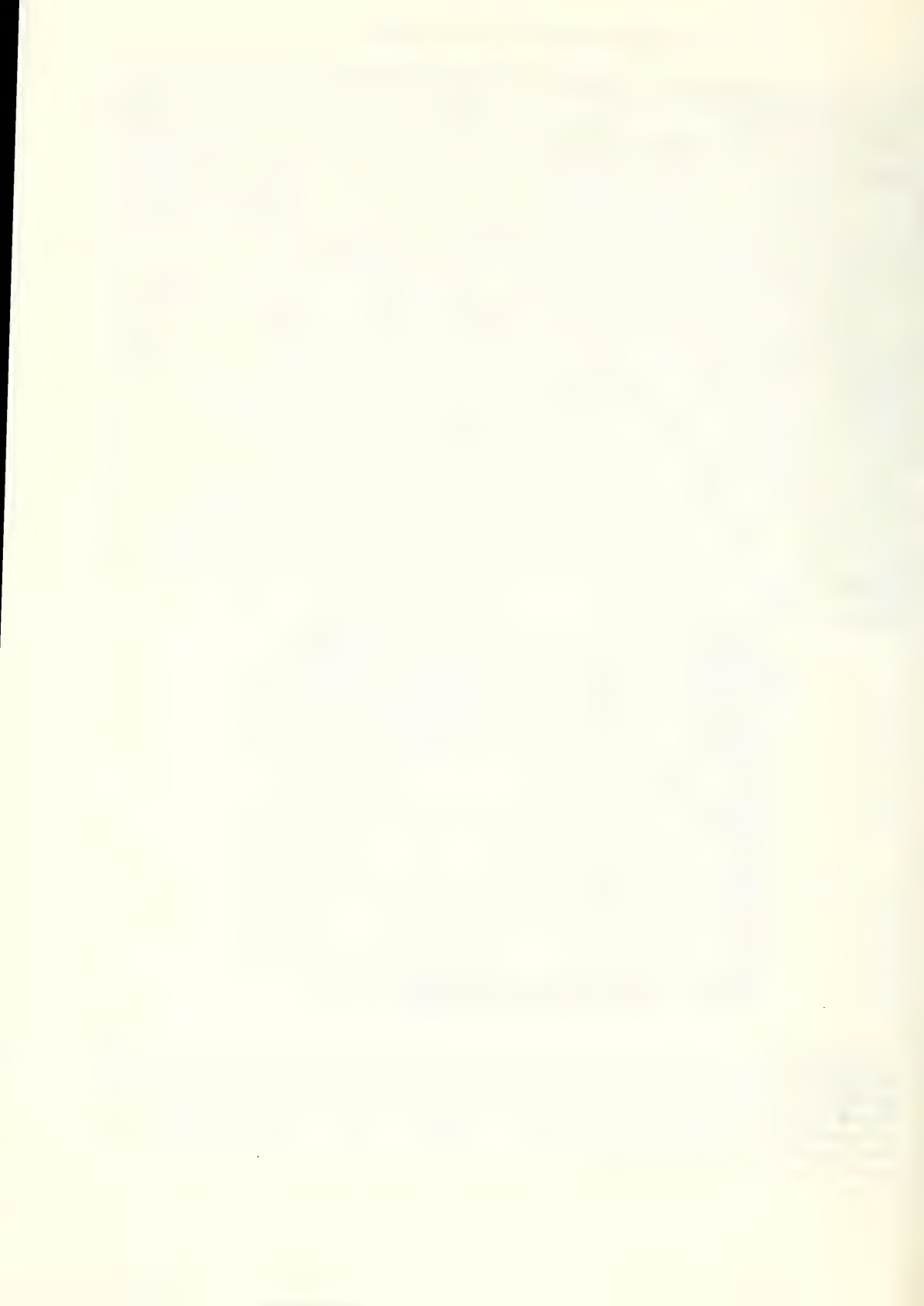
STATE-HOUSE.—The "State-House" was erected by the county commissioners in 1793 for the accommodation of the county officers and the public records. It was situated on the northeast corner of Fifth and Penn streets; built of brick, two stories, 30 by 90 feet, with a narrow alley extending along the eastern wall from the front to the rear. An



OLD JAIL.

PRISONS.—The first prison was erected in 1770, on the northeast corner of Callowhill and Thomas streets (Fifth and Washington). It was constructed of stone and plastered, two stories in height, and in dimensions 30 by 70 feet. The lot was 60 by 230 feet. A substantial stone wall, 20 feet high, was erected to inclose the lot to the depth of 130 feet.

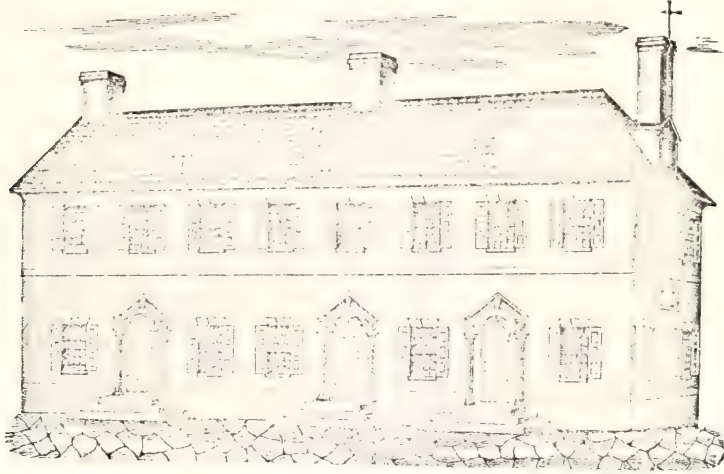
entry extended across the building near the center, with its doorway on Fifth street; and a stairway led from this entry to the second floor. The first floor was divided into three compartments; the first, adjoining Penn street, having been used for the prothonotary's office and clerk of Quarter Sessions; the central for the recorder, register and clerk of



the Orphans' court; and the rear for county commissioners and county treasurer. The second floor was divided into two compartments, the front room having been occupied mostly for Sunday-school purposes and public meetings from 1819 for about twenty years, and the rear room for lodge purposes. The building was sold by the county commissioners upon the removal of the county offices and records to the new Court-House.

The rear room on the first floor was used as the post-office from 1861 to 1865.

necessary buildings, and seven directors were appointed to proceed in the establishment of this public institution. They served till the election of three directors in October following, as provided in said Act. In the mean time (May 30, 1824) they purchased the "Brown farm," formerly known as the "Angelica farm," in Cumru township (owned and occupied during the Revolution by General Thomas Mifflin), three miles from Reading, situated on the Lancaster road, and containing 417½ acres, for the consideration of \$16,690, and there erected a com-



STATE HOUSE

In January, 1872, a large fire broke out in Stichter's hardware store, near by, which spread over the adjoining buildings to the west, and consumed the entire corner, including the "State-House." The inscription stone was preserved and given a place in the rear wall of the building which was soon afterward erected in its stead.

POOR-HOUSE.—The poor people of the county were provided for by "overseers" till the passage of an Act of Assembly on March 29, 1824, especially for this county, whereby the county commissioners were authorized to levy a tax for the purpose of purchasing land and erecting and furnishing the

modious building to accommodate the poor people of the county. This building was finished in 1825. It has since been known as the "Main Building." Other improvements were subsequently made upon the premises, prominent among them being the "Insane Building," erected in 1837 and 1843, and the "Hospital," in 1871-1874. The first poor persons were admitted on Oct. 21, 1825, from Reading. During the first year 130 inmates were admitted. Annually afterward the average number increased until 1878, when they reached 613; but since then they have gradually decreased until now, being about 250.

CHAPTER V—BENCH AND BAR

By the charter of William Penn and the several grants thereunder, various laws and ordinances were enacted from time to time "for the good government of the province," and the regulation of its affairs was directed by officers, either appointed or elected, for the entire territory or for the counties comprising it. The several officers for the county were as follows:

JUDGES—1752 to 1790

Various Acts of Assembly were passed before 1722, for a period of forty years, to establish the powers of courts for the purpose of protecting men in the enjoyment of their personal rights, of redressing wrongs, of adjudicating the rights of property, and of administering estates, and in that year the law for the several courts of the province became settled, continuing so till the Revolution, with the exception of certain amendments by two supplementary Acts passed in 1759 and 1767.

From the time of the erection of the county in 1752 down to 1776, the following persons acted in the capacity of justices, the length of service of several of them being unknown:

Name	Term
Conrad Weiser	1752-60
Francis Parvin	1752-66
Anthony Lee	
Jonas Seely	1752-66; 1769
Henry Harvey	1752-62
William Bird	1752-55
William Maugridge	1756-66
Moses Starr	
James Boone	
Jacob Levan	1752-62
James Read	
Peter Spycker	1763-90
Joseph Millard	1768-69
Benjamin Lightfoot	1771-74
George Webb	1770-71; 1774
Thomas Rutter	1770-71
Jacob Morgan	1768-69; 1772; 1774-77
James Diemer	1766-71
John Patton	1766-75; 1777
George Douglass	1768-73; 1775-84
Henry Christ	1766-71; 1784-90
Sebastian Zimmerman	1767-71; 1778-84
Nicholas Harmony	1766-71
Mark Bird	1775-76
Daniel Brodhead	
William Reeser	1778-84
Jonathan Potts	1776-77
Balthasar Gehr	1775-84
Thomas Dunlap	

In 1776, the first constitution of the State provided that a Supreme Executive Council should consist of twelve persons, who were to be chosen by ballot by the respective counties for the term of three years. The apportionment gave one to Berks county. The following councillors were elected

from Berks till the adoption of the Constitution of 1790. The term of the first was fixed at two years; and afterward three years.

Name	Term
Richard Tea, elected in 1776, but declined to serve	
Jacob Morgan	1777-78
James Read	1779-81; 1788-90
Sebastian Levan	1782-84
Charles Biddle	1783-87

This Constitution also provided for the establishments of courts of justice in every county of the State. The following persons officiated as judges of the county, from 1776 till 1790. The first three were president judges of the courts for a time.

Name	Term
James Diemer	
Henry Christ	1784-90
Peter Spycker	1776-90
James Read	
Daniel Levan	
Valentine Eckert	1785
John Ludwig	1785
Jacob Morgan	
Charles Shoemaker	1785-90
Paul Groscup	
John Eckert	1785-87
Jacob Weaver	1785
John Otto	1786-87
Matthias Reichert	1788-90
Nicholas Hunter	1788
Egedius Meyer	1789-90
John Christ	1789-90

And it provided also that each election district should elect two or more persons for the office of justice of the peace, and that the president of the Executive Council should commission one or more for each district for seven years. The following justices were elected in Berks county, and commissioned, from 1777 till 1790—the dash after the year indicating uncertainty whether or not the full term was served, and the repetition of the year indicating re-election:

Name	Term
Henry Christ	1777-84; 1784—
Jacob Shoemaker	1777—
James Read	1777—
Daniel Hiester	1777—
Peter Spycker	1776-90
Jacob Weaver	1777-84; 1784—
John Ludwig	1777-84; 1784—
Benjamin Shott	1777—
Christopher Schultz	1777—
Samuel Ely	1777-84; 1784—
Jacob Waggoner	1777—
Daniel Rothermel	1777—
John Old	1777—
Chas. Shoemaker	1777-84; 1784—
Egedius Meyer	1777-84; 1784—
Jacob Morgan	1777-81; 1784—
Thomas Parry	1777—
Michael Lindemuth	1778—

Name	Term
Gabriel Hiester.....	1778—
John Guldin.....	1780—
Valentine Eckert.....	1784—
Paul Groscup.....	1784—
John Eckert.....	1784—
John Otto.....	1785—
Matthias Reichert.....	1788-91
Nicholas Hunter.....	1788—
James Diemer.....	1788-91

JUDGES—1790 TO 1909

The Constitution of 1790 provided for the establishment of Circuit courts in the State to be composed of certain counties—not less than three nor more than six; and for the appointment by the Governor of a president judge of the courts in each circuit, and also of other judges, not less than three nor more than four in number, whose residence should be in the county. All the judges appointed were to hold their offices during good behavior.

In 1791, in pursuance of the Constitution of 1790, the State was divided into five judicial circuits or districts, and each district became entitled to a president judge. The Third District comprised Berks, Luzerne, Northampton, and Northumberland counties. In 1806, the State was divided into ten districts, and Berks, Northampton, and Wayne comprised the Third District. In 1811, Schuylkill county was erected and included in the district, but it was cut off in 1815. In 1812, Lehigh county was erected and included in the district. In 1834, the State was divided into seventeen districts, and Berks, Lehigh, and Northampton comprised the Third District.

The county of Berks was erected into a separate judicial district by the Act of April 5, 1849, and called the Twenty-third District. It has since been a separate district, with this number in the judicial system.

In 1810 the associate judges were limited to two in number. The provision in reference to the tenure of office was modified by the Amended Constitution of 1838, whereby the term of president judge was fixed at ten years, and of associate judge at five years.

In 1850 an amendment to the Constitution was adopted which provided for the election of the judges for the terms mentioned. The first election was held in October, 1851.

The office of additional law judge was created by the Act of April 15, 1869, for Berks county, with powers and term similar to those of president judge.

The office of Orphans' court judge was created for the county by the Act of June 13, 1883, pursuant to the New Constitution; and on the 29th of June following, the Governor made the first appointment. His judicial powers are confined to matters which arise in the Orphans' court; and the term of service is ten years.

The office of associate judge was abolished by the New Constitution, the incumbents to continue in office until their terms of service expired.

Before 1874, county officials took their offices on the second Monday of December succeeding their

election. The New Constitution provided that thereafter they should take their offices on the first Monday of January succeeding.

PRESIDENT JUDGES

Name	Term
Jacob Rush.....	1791-1805
John Spayd.....	1806-09
Robert Porter.....	1810-22
Garrick Malery.....	1823-35
John Banks.....	1836-46
J. Pringle Jones.....	1847-48; 1851-61
David F. Gordon.....	1849-51
W. J. Woodward*.....	1861-71; 1871-74
Jeremiah Hageman†.....	1875-79; 1880-89
James N. Ermentrout‡.....	1890-1908
Gustav A. Endlich.....	1908-09

ADDITIONAL LAW JUDGES

Name	Term
Henry Van Reed§.....	1869; 1875
Jeremiah Hageman||.....	1869-71
Augustus S. Sassaman.....	1876-86
James N. Ermentrout.....	1887-93
Gustav A. Endlich.....	1890-1908
Wm. Kerper Stevens¶.....	1908-09

ORPHANS' COURT JUDGES

Name	Term
Hiram H. Schwartz**.....	1883-1891
H. Willis Bland.....	1891-19—

ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Name	Term
James Diemer.....	1791-1819
George Ege.....	1791-1818
Matthias Reichert.....	1791-97
Joseph Hiester.....	1791-94
Nicholas Lotz.....	1795-1806
Benjamin Morris.....	1798-1809
Gabriel Hiester.....	1819-23
Charles Shoemaker.....	1820-22
William Witman.....	1823-28
Jacob Schneider.....	1824-29
Matthias S. Richards.....	1829-45
William Darling.....	1830-38
William Addams.....	1830-42
John Stauffer.....	1843-51
William High.....	1846-50
Samuel Bell.....	1851
Daniel Young.....	1851-56
William Heidenreich.....	1851-56
David Schall.....	1856-66

* Warren J. Woodward was elected one of the associate justices of the Supreme court of Pennsylvania, on Nov. 3, 1874, for the term of twenty-one years. He took and held his seat from January, 1875, till his death on Sept. 23, 1879.

† Jeremiah Hageman succeeded Warren J. Woodward, by promotion, on Jan. 13, 1875, when he was sworn as president judge for the remainder of the term, ending Jan. 5, 1880. He was elected in November, 1879, for a term of ten years. Not having been re-elected, Judge Ermentrout was promoted by law to be president judge.

‡ Died Aug. 19, 1908, and succeeded by Gustav A. Endlich.
§ Henry Van Reed, a member of the county bar, was appointed on July 13, 1869, by the Governor, John W. Geary, to fill the office, and he held his seat till his successor, duly elected, was qualified, Dec. 6, 1869. He was appointed a second time by the Governor, John F. Hartranft, on Jan. 12, 1875, to fill the vacancy in this office, caused by the promotion of Jeremiah Hageman to the office of president judge, until his successor, Augustus S. Sassaman, a member of the county bar, duly elected, was qualified on Jan. 2, 1876, for ten years.

|| Jeremiah Hageman was elected Oct. 12, 1869, to this office for ten years from Dec. 6, 1869. He was promoted to the office of president judge, for the remainder of his term, on Jan. 13, 1875, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Warren J. Woodward, who had been elected to the Supreme bench.

¶ Appointed by Governor Sept. 10, 1908, to serve till first Monday in January, 1910.

** Hiram H. Schwartz was appointed on June 29, 1883, to serve in this office till Jan. 7, 1884. He was nominated for the office, for the full term, by the Democratic Convention in August, 1883, and elected in November following. He died before the expiration of his term, on Aug. 25, 1891, when H. Willis Bland was appointed by the Governor, on Sept. 16, 1891, and he was elected, November, 1892, for a full term; and at his expiration he was re-elected.



Name	Term
George D. Stitzel.....	1856-66
Charles Kessler.....	1866-71
David Kutz*.....	1866-70
Henry Rhoads.....	1870-71
George W. Bruckman.....	1871-76
Daniel Buskirk.....	1871-76

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

The office of attorney at law is not an elective one. It never was. But it has existed time out of mind. It began with the administration of justice, and is inseparable from it. The history of attorneys would be the history of the courts of judicature. They have always occupied a prominent place. Their prominence has resulted from energy well directed in behalf of the rights and property of mankind, and also in behalf as well of the establishment as of the development of principles regulative of associations in every department of life.

A law was enacted in this State as early as 1710 in relation to this office. Then the justices were authorized to admit any attorney or attorneys to plead in any of the established courts during good behavior. No provision was made as to the number or ability. In 1715, however, the authority of the justices was modified. They might admit "a competent number of persons, of honest disposition and learned in the Law, to practise as attorneys who shall behave themselves justly and faithfully in their practice." And in 1727 a provision was made requiring such persons before they were admitted to take the following oath: "Thou shalt behave thyself in the office of attorney within the court, according to the best of thy learning and ability, and with all good fidelity as well to the court as to the client; thou shalt use no falsehood, nor delay any person's cause for lucre or malice." And these qualifications have continued to this day. Since the adoption of the State and national constitutions they have qualified to support them: This last qualification is common to all statutory officers.

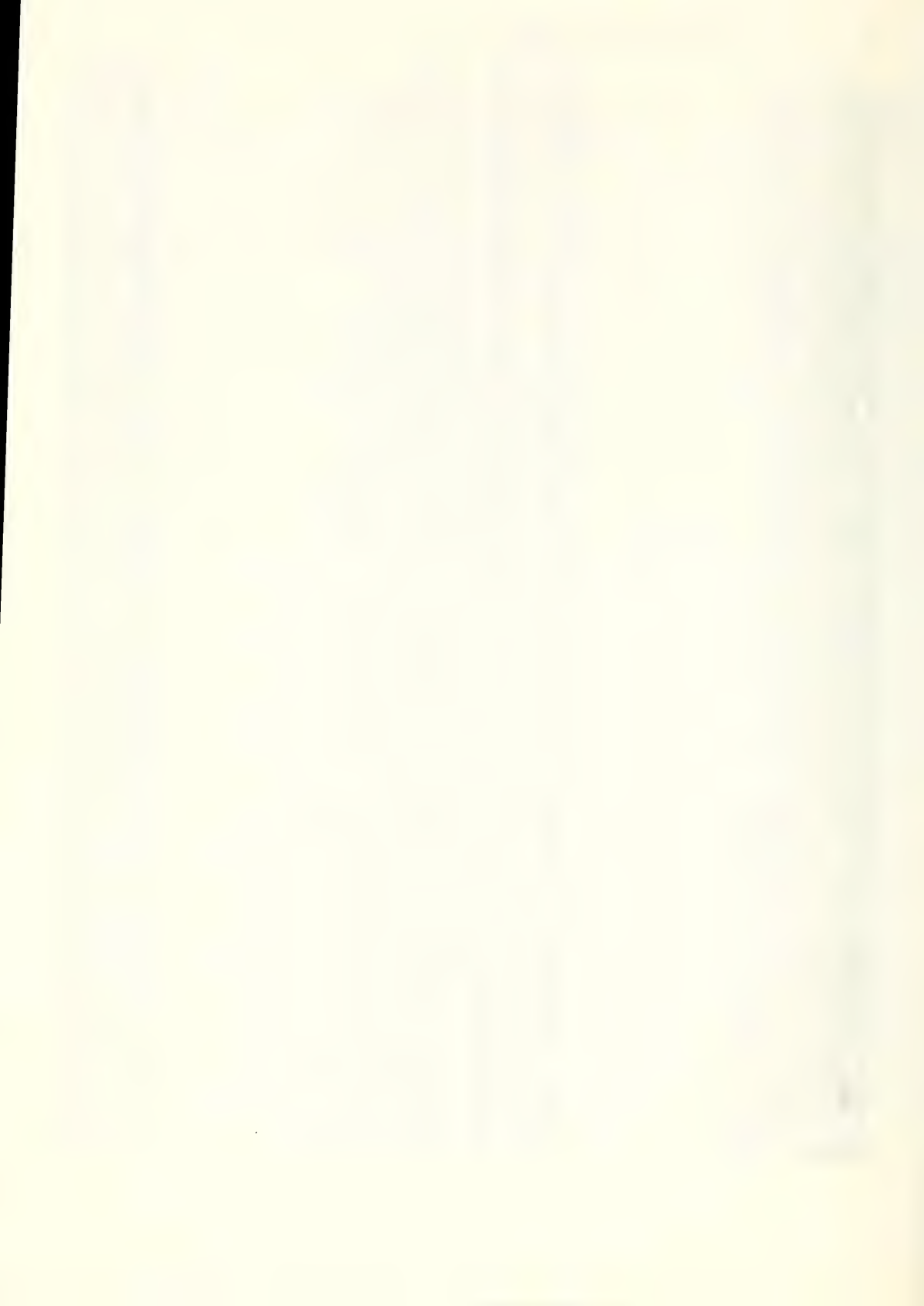
The following attorneys have resided in the county of Berks and practised in its several courts. The date after each name is the time of admission to practice.

Name	Admitted
James Biddle.....	
David Henderson.....	
James Whitehead, Jr.....	
Edward Biddle.....	
Daniel Levan, Jr.....	Nov. 11, 1760
Collinson Read.....	Aug. 13, 1772
James Potts.....	Aug. 1, 1773
Daniel Clymer.....	May 4, 1776
Alexander Graydon.....	May 14, 1779
Edward Scull.....	Aug. 17, 1779
Nathaniel Potts.....	Aug. 14, 1781
Jacob Hubley.....	Nov. 14, 1786
George Eckert.....	Feb. 19, 1787
James Scull.....	Feb. 19, 1787
Joseph Hubley.....	Aug. 14, 1787
John Spayd.....	Feb. 14, 1788
Peter Hoofnagle.....	Feb. 14, 1788

* David Kutz having died in office July 20, 1870, Henry Rhoads was appointed by Gov. John W. Geary, on Aug. 3, 1870, for unexpired term ending Dec. 4, 1871.

Name	Admitted
Marks John Biddle.....	Dec. 9, 1788
Jacob R. Howell.....	Feb. 11, 1789
Charles Evans.....	Aug. 9, 1791
William Witman.....	Aug. 20, 1793
Frederick Smith.....	Aug. 4, 1795
Levi Pauling.....	Aug. 13, 1796
Bird Wilson.....	May 14, 1798
Andrew Graff, Jr.....	April 9, 1798
John Hiester.....	Aug. 6, 1798
William S. Biddle.....	June 2, 1801
Frederick John Haller.....	Nov. 4, 1801
William Morris.....	Aug. 9, 1804
Anthony Morris.....	Nov. 6, 1804
Samuel D. Franks.....	Aug. 10, 1805
James B. Hubley.....	April 4, 1809
John Spayd.....	April 2, 1810
Samuel Baird, Jr.....	April 10, 1810
William Morris, Jr.....	Nov. 8, 1810
Thomas B. Smith.....	July 4, 1814
James Biddle.....	Aug. 9, 1815
Francis S. Muhlenberg.....	May 8, 1816
Nathaniel P. Hobert.....	Jan. 13, 1818
Charles Davis.....	Aug. 4, 1818
Charles Whitman.....	Aug. 9, 1818
William Darling.....	Nov. 13, 1818
Edward B. Hubley.....	April 5, 1820
James L. Dunn.....	Nov. 10, 1821
W. C. Leavenworth.....	Aug. 18, 1822
Daniel J. Hiester.....	Aug. 4, 1823
Lloyd Wharton.....	March 26, 1824
Lawrence S. Lardner.....	April 8, 1824
David F. Gordon.....	Aug. 6, 1824
Thomas Morris.....	Nov. 1, 1824
Wm. Fullerton Duncan.....	Jan. 3, 1825
David Evans.....	Jan. 5, 1825
Henry W. Smith.....	Jan. 5, 1825
John S. Wharton.....	March 4, 1825
Edward P. Pearson.....	May 23, 1825
Charles J. Jack.....	Aug. 1, 1825
Robert M. Brook.....	Aug. 2, 1825
John H. Sheetz.....	Aug. 3, 1825
Joseph W. Roland.....	Aug. 20, 1825
George M. Keim.....	Aug. 11, 1826
Joseph H. Spayd.....	Nov. 8, 1826
Philip Kendall.....	Jan. 1, 1827
Elijah Deckert.....	Jan. 4, 1827
Levi B. Smith.....	Jan. 10, 1827
William M. Biddle.....	April 4, 1827
Jacob Hoffman.....	Nov. 10, 1829
Robert M. Barr.....	Jan. 3, 1831
Peter Filbert.....	Jan. 6, 1831
John Mayer.....	Jan. 8, 1831
Henry Rhoads.....	April 3, 1832
William Strong.....	Nov. 8, 1832
George S. Wharton.....	Aug. 15, 1832
James Pauling.....	Nov. 7, 1833
Francis Aurand.....	Nov. 13, 1833
William Betz.....	Jan. 10, 1834
George G. Barclay.....	April 10, 1835
Newton D. Strong.....	Aug. 3, 1835
Augustus F. Boas.....	Aug. 4, 1835
J. Pringle Jones.....	Nov. 2, 1835
Anthony F. Miller.....	Aug. 15, 1836
Franklin B. Schoener.....	Jan. 3, 1837
John S. Richards.....	April 4, 1837
Garrick Mallery.....	Aug. 14, 1837
Dennis W. O'Brien.....	Aug. 7, 1838
Jeremiah D. Bitting.....	Aug. 8, 1838
Andrew M. Sallade.....	Aug. 11, 1838
Jackson H. Sherman.....	Aug. 7, 1839
William M. Hiester.....	Jan. 7, 1840
Peter Shearer.....	April 7, 1840
Matthias Mengel.....	April 8, 1840
George E. Ludwig.....	Nov. 3, 1840
James Donagan.....	Dec. 22, 1841
Samuel Sohl.....	April 5, 1842

Name	Admitted	Name	Admitted
Jeremiah Hazenman	April 7, 1842	William M. Goodman	Aug. 13, 1864
J. Dundas Biddle	May 17, 1842	Edwin Shalter	Aug. 13, 1864
Charles Wiernan	May 17, 1842	Louis Richards	Jan. 16, 1865
George W. Arms	March 8, 1843	Irenaeus Shalter	Jan. 16, 1865
John K. Longnecker	Nov. 6, 1843	J. Ross Miller	Aug. 7, 1865
Henry Van Reed	April 5, 1844	J. Dallas Schoener	Aug. 7, 1865
William M. Baird	April 12, 1844	Henry Mag. Keim	Aug. 7, 1865
Henry A. Muhlenberg	July 5, 1844	Harrison Maltzberger	Aug. 7, 1865
Isaac High Keim	July 5, 1844	Peter D. Wanner	Nov. 4, 1865
Franklin B. Miller	Dec. 14, 1844	Llewellyn Wanner	Aug. —, 1866
Jacob S. Livingood	Jan. 7, 1845	William M. Rightmyer	Jan. 21, 1867
J. Glancy Jones	Jan. 7, 1845	George M. Ermentrout	Nov. 27, 1867
Silas E. Buzard	April 8, 1845	James N. Ermentrout	Nov. 27, 1867
Edward W. Scudder	Aug. 4, 1845	Geo. F. Baer	Jan. 22, 1868
Edward M. Clymer	Aug. 4, 1845	Chas. F. Evans	April 28, 1868
J. Bowman Bell	Jan. 5, 1846	T. H. Garrigues	Aug. 10, 1868
J. Lawrence Getz	Aug. 6, 1846	Ben. E. Lauks	Jan. 11, 1869
William B. Schoener	Aug. 15, 1846	H. Willis Bland	April 12, 1869
J. De Puy Davis	Jan. 5, 1847	Henry C. G. Reber	April 12, 1869
James May Jones	Jan. 5, 1847	Cyrus G. Derr	Aug. 12, 1870
John Banks	April 7, 1847	Wm. L. Gunther	Nov. 14, 1870
Samuel L. Young	Aug. 10, 1847	Morton L. Montgomery	Aug. 28, 1871
A. Lucius Henneshotz	Nov. 11, 1847	Garrett B. Stevens	Aug. 12, 1872
J. Biddle Gordon	Jan. 6, 1848	Horace Roland	Aug. 12, 1872
James A. Banks	Feb. 21, 1848	Edgar M. Levan	Aug. 17, 1872
J. Bright Smith	April 5, 1848	Frank R. Schell	Sept. 16, 1872
William F. Filbert	Aug. 9, 1848	Edwin White Moore	Sept. 30, 1872
A. Jordan Swartz	Sept. 28, 1848	James A. O'Reilly	Jan. 13, 1873
Joel B. Wanner	Jan. 13, 1849	Stephen M. Meredith	Aug. 11, 1873
Jacob M. Sallade	April 6, 1849	Dan'l H. Wingerd	Sept. 29, 1873
John A. Banks	April 6, 1849	Hiram Y. Kauffman	Nov. 9, 1874
Hiester Clymer	April 6, 1849	John C. K. Heine	April 12, 1875
Charles B. Weaver	Nov. 8, 1850	B. Frank Dettra	April 12, 1875
Jacob K. McKenty	April 7, 1851	B. F. Y. Shearer	April 12, 1875
Henry C. Kutz	April 24, 1851	C. H. Ruhl	April 15, 1875
Wm. Edmund Banks	April 25, 1851	B. F. McAtee	April 15, 1875
Wm. S. Marx	Aug. 4, 1851	Jno. F. Smith	Aug. 9, 1875
Albert G. Green	Nov. 11, 1851	Jefferson Snyder	Aug. 9, 1875
Edmund L. Smith	Nov. 11, 1851	John B. Daupman	Nov. 8, 1875
George DeB. Keim	April 8, 1852	Henry A. Muhlenberg	Nov. 8, 1875
Charles K. Robeson	April 8, 1852	Daniel B. Young	Jan. 10, 1876
E. R. Zimmerman	April 8, 1852	Adam H. Schmechl	Jan. 10, 1876
Carl O. Wagner	Nov. 5, 1852	Edwin B. Wiegand	Jan. 18, 1876
Michael P. Boyer	Aug. 8, 1853	Wesley D. Horning	April 17, 1876
Wharton Morris	Nov. 15, 1854	Gustav A. Endlich	Nov. 12, 1877
George J. Eckert	April 28, 1855	Simon P. O'Reilly	Jan. 14, 1877
Frederick L. Smith	Nov. 10, 1855	Wayne Hayman	Jan. 14, 1877
Amos B. Wanner	Jan. 12, 1857	Henry A. Zieber	April 10, 1878
B. Frank Boyer	March 15, 1857	Isaac Hiester	Aug. 13, 1878
Daniel R. Clymer	Aug. 20, 1857	J. H. Marx	Aug. 13, 1878
James B. Bechtel	April 14, 1858	Jeremiah K. Grant	Nov. 11, 1878
William K. Loose	April 14, 1858	Walter B. Craig	Nov. 12, 1878
Chas. Ph. Muhlenberg	Nov. 8, 1859	D. Nicholas Schaeffer	Nov. 12, 1878
Daniel Ermentrout	Aug. 3, 1859	M. Brayton McKnight	Nov. 12, 1878
Wm. H. Livingood	Jan. 19, 1860	Israel C. Becker	Dec. 12, 1878
Hiram H. Schwartz	July 14, 1860	Daniel G. Guldin	Jan. 20, 1879
Jesse G. Hawley	Sept. 20, 1860	Warren Woodward	Jan. 20, 1879
Thomas S. Brenholtz	Sept. 20, 1860	Chas. P. Sherman	Aug. 11, 1879
J. George Seltzer	Feb. 5, 1861	Frank S. Livingood	Aug. 11, 1879
Abner K. Stauffer	April 15, 1861	John W. Apple	Aug. 11, 1879
Edward H. Shearer	April 15, 1861	Henry D. Green	Nov. 10, 1879
John Ralston	Aug. 14, 1862	William C. Heacock	April 12, 1880
Frank B. Schmucker	Aug. 25, 1862	William O. Miller	April 12, 1880
William P. Bard	Feb. 9, 1863	Chas. M. Plank	Nov. 22, 1880
Charles Henry Jones	April 14, 1863	William J. Kourke	Nov. 22, 1880
Richmond L. Jones	April 14, 1863	Albert R. Heilig	Nov. 22, 1880
Daniel E. Schroeder	April 23, 1863	Alonzo E. Ream	Nov. 22, 1880
Charles A. Leopold	April 23, 1863	Geo. F. Hazenman	Jan. 24, 1881
J. Warren Tryon	Nov. 14, 1863	Israel H. Rothermel	Aug. 20, 1881
J. Howard Jacobs	Nov. 14, 1863	John H. Rothermel	Aug. 20, 1881
Augustus S. Sassaman	Jan. 9, 1864	Daniel F. Westley	Nov. 14, 1881
Israel C. Becker	Jan. 28, 1864	Charles C. Kehr	Nov. 14, 1881
Francis M. Banks	May 21, 1864	Henry Maltzberger	Nov. 14, 1881
Horace A. Yundt	Aug. 9, 1864	George J. Gross, Jr.	Nov. 14, 1881
Charles H. Schaeffer	Aug. 9, 1864	Henry O. Schrader	Nov. 13, 1882
Franklin B. Lauks	Aug. 13, 1864	I. Comley Fetter	Nov. 13, 1882



Name	Admitted	Name	Admitted
James B. Baker.....	Nov. 13, 1882	William A. Hope.....	May 21, 1898
Adam B. Rieser.....	Nov. 13, 1882	George D. Humbert.....	Nov. 14, 1898
Fillwood H. Deysher.....	Nov. 13, 1882	George M. Jones.....	Nov. 14, 1898
Richard H. Koch.....	Nov. 12, 1883	Harvey F. Kautner.....	Nov. 14, 1898
Henry P. Keiser.....	Nov. 12, 1883	J. Milton Miller.....	Nov. 14, 1898
J. Edward Miller.....	Nov. 12, 1883	Paul H. Price.....	Nov. 14, 1898
Felix P. Kremp.....	Nov. 12, 1883	Harry D. Schaeffer.....	Nov. 14, 1898
Charles H. Tyson.....	Nov. 10, 1884	Henry Seidel Throm.....	Nov. 14, 1898
William B. Bechtel.....	Nov. 10, 1884	Allen S. Hottenstein.....	Dec. 13, 1898
Frank K. Flood.....	Nov. 10, 1884	Harry J. Dunn.....	Jan. 3, 1899
Philip S. Zieher.....	Nov. 10, 1884	Samuel E. Bertolet.....	Nov. 13, 1899
William Kerper Stevens.....	Nov. 10, 1884	Joseph R. Dickinson.....	Nov. 13, 1899
Howard P. Wanner.....	Nov. 9, 1885	Edwin W. Kadbach.....	Nov. 13, 1899
William P. Schell.....	March 12, 1886	Edwin S. Livingood.....	Nov. 13, 1899
Daniel F. Ancona.....	Nov. 8, 1886	William H. Sadler.....	Nov. 13, 1899
Caleb J. Bieber.....	Nov. 8, 1886	Edward D. Trexler.....	Nov. 13, 1899
Edwin Sassaman.....	March 28, 1887	Charles S. Shalters.....	Dec. 23, 1899
David Levan.....	Nov. 14, 1887	Garrett Stevens.....	Dec. 23, 1899
Morris H. Schaffer.....	Nov. 14, 1887	Foster S. Biehl.....	Nov. 12, 1900
Ammon S. Strunk.....	Nov. 14, 1887	Charles K. Derr.....	Nov. 12, 1900
Samuel N. Potteiger.....	Nov. 24, 1888	John M. Frame.....	Nov. 12, 1900
Abraham H. Rothermel.....	Nov. 24, 1888	William E. Fisher.....	Nov. 12, 1900
Herbert R. Green.....	Jan. 21, 1888	Walter B. Freed.....	Nov. 12, 1900
Ira P. Rothermel.....	Jan. 21, 1888	Earl I. Koch.....	Nov. 12, 1900
George R. VanReed.....	Jan. 21, 1888	Oliver G. Lentz.....	Nov. 12, 1900
Edward S. Kremp.....	Nov. 23, 1889	Frederick A. Marx.....	Nov. 12, 1900
David F. Mauger.....	Nov. 23, 1889	Charles G. Moyer.....	Nov. 12, 1900
John H. Zweizig.....	Nov. 23, 1889	Wilson S. Rothermel.....	Nov. 12, 1900
John J. Kutz.....	Nov. 10, 1890	Charles R. Wanner.....	Jan. 7, 1901
George W. Wagner.....	Nov. 10, 1890	J. Bennett Nolan.....	Nov. 18, 1901
William J. Young.....	Nov. 10, 1890	Oliver M. Wolff.....	Sept. 8, 1902
Fitz-Daniel Ermentrout.....	Nov. 7, 1892	John H. Bridenbaugh.....	Nov. 10, 1902
Lee Friday.....	Nov. 7, 1892	E. Carroll Schaeffer.....	Nov. 10, 1902
J. Fred Hartgen.....	Nov. 6, 1893	John B. Stevens.....	Nov. 10, 1902
Ralph H. Mengel.....	Nov. 6, 1893	Thomas Jaeger Snyder.....	Nov. 10, 1902
Silas R. Rothermel.....	Nov. 6, 1893	H. Robert Mays.....	Feb. 20, 1904
Howard L. Greenawald.....	Nov. 12, 1894	H. Franklin Grossman.....	March 7, 1904
Harvey F. Heinly.....	Nov. 12, 1894	William A. Shomo.....	Oct. 3, 1904
Louis A. Sassaman.....	Nov. 12, 1894	Spencer B. Roland.....	Nov. 7, 1904
Walter S. Young.....	Nov. 12, 1894	Walter G. Steininger.....	Feb. 13, 1905
Sherman H. Hovetter.....	Nov. 11, 1895	William Abbott Witman, Jr.....	Feb. 13, 1905
John H. Milliholland.....	Nov. 11, 1895	J. Howard Jacobs.....	Aug. 14, 1905
Frederick W. Nicolls.....	Nov. 11, 1895	James B. Mercer.....	Aug. 14, 1905
Robert P. Shick.....	Nov. 11, 1895	Randolph Stauffer.....	Feb. 13, 1906
Hiester A. Bowers.....	Nov. 11, 1895	H. Otto Lowe.....	May 14, 1906
S. Leo Donovan.....	Nov. 9, 1896	Robert Gray Bushong.....	Sept. 22, 1906
Wilson Ferguson.....	Nov. 9, 1896	Leonard G. Yoder.....	Sept. 22, 1906
J. Wilmer Fisher.....	Nov. 9, 1896	Frank D. Arnold.....	Oct. 9, 1906
James P. Long.....	Nov. 9, 1896	John S. Rader.....	Nov. 5, 1906
William Rick.....	Nov. 9, 1896	John K. Hahn.....	March 11, 1907
Ira C. Kutz.....	Nov. 8, 1897	John Arthur Keppelman.....	Sept. 19, 1907
Thomas K. Leidy.....	Nov. 8, 1897	Wayne W. Light.....	Feb. 10, 1908

CHAPTER VI — MEDICAL PROFESSION

Practitioners of medicine were located in all the sections of the county from the earliest settlements, but their names have not been preserved because there was no place to register them. But they were scattered many miles apart. On this account, cases of ordinary sickness were generally attended to by the parents of the family, and the administration of home remedies was practised. The physicians in active practice were of the allopathic school altogether, those of the homœopathic school not having started in the county until about 1838. Midwifery was in general use. Pow-wowing was practised to a considerable extent until in recent years, when it was gradually abandoned as education became more thorough and regular physicians more numerous.

MEDICAL FACULTY OF BERKS COUNTY.—The practising physicians of this county, having associated and become a body politic in law (incorporated July 14, 1824), under the above style and title, met agreeably to public notice, on Saturday evening, Aug. 7, 1824, at the public building of this borough, and duly organized their institution. Dr. Isaac Hiester was called to the chair, and Dr. Charles Baum appointed secretary. The charter and by-laws having been read, the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year: Isaac Hiester, president; C. L. Schlemm and John B. Otto, vice-presidents; Charles Baum, recording secretary; William J. C. Baum and Edward Haydock, corresponding secretaries; George Eckert, treasurer; Bernard M'Neil and Gerhard G. Bishop, curators.

The president delivered a short address to the association, and then proceeded agreeably to the by-laws to appoint a standing committee of three members for the examination of candidates for the grade of junior membership. The following gentlemen composed the committee: C. L. Schlemm, John B. Otto and Charles Baum.

The following resolutions were then offered, discussed and adopted:

Resolved, That the members of the Medical Faculty be requested to furnish monthly to the corresponding secretaries, a list of the diseases and deaths that may occur in their respective neighborhoods, and an account of the general health of the county, together with such remarks as they may deem proper for publication.

Resolved, That it is expedient to apprise the public of the existence of small pox in this borough, and that inasmuch as this body retains undiminished confidence in vaccination, this mild and safe preventative be strongly recommended in all cases deemed liable to the infection of that loathsome and too often fatal disease.

Resolved, That the students in medicine of Berks county have permission to attend the meetings and deliberations of this body.

Resolved, That one hundred copies of the constitution and by-laws of the Medical Faculty of Berks county be printed in pamphlet form, under the superintendence of a committee consisting of Drs. Otto, Baum and Bishop, and that the proceedings of this evening, together with the inaugural address of the president, be published in the several papers of this borough, signed by the president and attested by the secretary.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the president deliver an oration in public as soon as may be convenient, in the name and on behalf of this faculty.

The faculty adjourned to the next stated meeting on the first Saturday in October next, at 7 o'clock, P.M.

CHARLES BAUM, Recording Secretary.

The members who subscribed the charter of incorporation were as follows:

Honorary	Junior
William Wood	Bernard M'Neil (N. Y.)
Isaac Hiester	Jonathan F. Evans
John B. Otto	Enos Chichester
John F. Baum	Gerk G. Bischoz
Charles Baum	Edward Haydock
William Gries	August Klein
Geo. N. Eckert	C. L. Schlemm
Jacob Rodrock	William J. C. Baum

The charter was approved by Frederick Smith (of Reading), then attorney-general of Pennsylvania, on June 3, 1824; and by William Tilghman, John B. Gibson and Thomas Duncan, judges of the Supreme court, on June 4, 1824.

Dr. Hiester, upon assuming the duties of the office to which he was unanimously chosen, delivered an admirable address to the faculty. Among other things, he said that this organization was the first of the kind in Pennsylvania, excepting the College of Physicians and Medical Society of Philadelphia.

This society continued to exist, hold regular meetings and annually send representatives to the State Medical Society for a period of twenty years. On Feb. 23, 1850, the society was reorganized and the name changed to the "Medical Society of the City of Reading and the County of Berks," with the object of cultivating the science of medicine in all its collateral branches, to elevate and sustain medical character, to encourage a system of professional etiquette and to promote mutual improvement, social intercourse and good feeling among the members of the medical profession. No person could become a member of this society unless he were a graduate of some recognized medical college. In 1866, the name was changed to Berks County Medical Society. In 1867 it took the first steps toward establishing a public hospital at Reading, which eventually culminated in the Reading Hospital.

The society was disbanded in 1870, with a membership of thirty-seven. This dissolution grew out

of a factional fight over an attempt to expel one of its prominent members. The one faction, numbering twenty-two physicians, immediately after the dissolution, on the same day (Nov. 22, 1870), assembled at the office of Dr. John B. Brooke, No. 44 North Fourth street, Reading, and organized another society entitled "Berks County Medical Association." The names of the organizers were as follows:

J. S. Ammon	J. M. Matthews
J. Brobst	William Moore
Edward Brobst	J. M. Newpher
J. B. Brooke	J. Y. Shearer
Geo. W. Byerle	J. K. Seaman
Joseph Coblentz	J. B. Sterley
A. B. Dundor	C. Turner
J. S. Hunsberger	D. A. Ulrich
S. L. Kurtz	Edward Wallace
De B. Kuhn	Charles Weber
C. Kreye	W. Murray Weidman

After a temporary organization, a resolution was passed to the effect that the new society be formed for mutual improvement in connection with the Pennsylvania State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. The constitution and by-laws were adopted at a meeting held Jan. 3, 1871; and a permanent organization was effected by electing William Moore, president; J. S. Ammon and James M. Matthews, vice-presidents; W. Murray Weidman, recording secretary; J. B. Brooke, corresponding secretary; D. A. Ulrich, treasurer; Edward Wallace, J. A. Brobst, De B. Kuhn, censors; and Joseph Coblentz, curator.

The name was then changed from the Berks County Medical Association to the Medical Society of the County of Berks; and it was decided that the meetings be held bi-monthly and a business meeting should alternate with a meeting for the discussion of topics relating to the profession.

At the meeting of the society held in Stauffer's Hall (the meeting place at that time and for several years afterward) March 7, 1871, Drs. S. L. Kurtz, D. A. Ulrich and Edward Wallace, a committee appointed to represent this society at the annual meeting of the State Medical Society at Philadelphia, reported that they had gained recognition from that body, were admitted as members and the board of censors had approved of the society's constitution and by-laws.

The first delegate election of this society for sending representatives to the American Medical Association was held on March 7, 1871, and Drs. Kuhn, Wily and Moore were selected for that purpose.

The society made its first annual visit to the Poor-House in March, 1871.

In 1872, the subject of vaccination received the official indorsement of the society.

In 1875, the place of meeting of the society was changed to the office of Dr. J. B. Brooke.

In 1878, it favored the passage of a law by the State Legislature concerning "privileged communications," so as to place physicians on an equality

with other professions as witnesses in a court of justice; and in that same year, the delegates to the State Society were instructed to favor a resolution, in connection with other county societies, that no member should admit into his office a student of medicine until he presented a certificate showing his educational qualifications; which the State Society adopted. Shortly afterward, they encouraged the movement relating to the registration of all practising physicians, which culminated in the passage of the Act of June 8, 1881, which required every practitioner to register his name and qualifications in the prothonotary's office.

In 1880, the society first started lectures on special topics, and on Sept. 7th, Dr. E. H. Coover, of Harrisburg, delivered a lecture on "spinal curvature."

In 1881, the meeting place of the society was changed to the Reading Library, where it remained for several years, and then it was removed to the council chambers temporarily. The subject of permanent quarters was then discussed and a committee (consisting of Drs. Cleaver, Bachman and Keiser) was appointed to make the necessary inquiries, not only for a meeting place but also for a "Medical Library," which had been earnestly advocated. In the course of their inquiries, Dr. John B. Raser, druggist, voluntarily offered a room in his store building at Sixth and Walnut streets, second story front, free of rent for an indefinite time, and this offer the society gratefully accepted. The quarters were then established in the Raser building and the meetings have been held there regularly ever since. The membership in 1909 was 100.

Immediately after its removal to this convenient place, Dr. W. Murray Weidman took a special interest in the establishment of a Medical Library and collected a large number of medical works as the foundation for its development, and this interest he continued with great earnestness until his decease in 1902, all the members of the society recognizing his services in that behalf. The library embraced a fine collection of the best medical works and in 1909 numbered altogether about 1,275 volumes.

In 1882, the by-laws were amended, relating to the requirements of students and condemning the practice of copyrighting common pharmaceutical preparations under trade-marks; and in 1883, the society passed a resolution encouraging the establishment of a suitable building at Washington for a National Medical Library and Surgical Museum.

In 1884, the State delegates of the society were instructed to favor the creation of a State Board of Health; which came to be established in 1885.

In June, 1891, the Medical Society of the State held its forty-second annual convention at Reading. The proceedings were interesting and among the papers read there was one by Dr. Israel Cleaver, entitled the "History of the Medical Profession in Berks County." In that paper Dr. Cleaver stated that the State Society had been organized at Lancaster in 1848, and its first annual convention had

been held at Reading in 1849. Then the local society had a membership of twenty-six.

Two of the presidents of the State Society had been selected from the Berks County Society: Dr. John P. Hiester, in 1853; and Dr. Edward Wallace, in 1862.

Since the organization of the Society in 1870, the members have held annual banquets in January and outings in August, which have been distinguished for their literary excellence and true sociability.

The membership in 1909 numbered 87.

READING MEDICAL ASSOCIATION was organized May 27, 1850, with the following physicians as its first officers:

President, William M. Gries; vice-president, John P. Hiester; recording secretary, Edward Wallace; corresponding secretary, L. L. Stewart; treasurer, Charles H. Hunter.

The meetings were not held regularly until 1867; then, on July 30th, a third re-organization having been effected, a new constitution and by-laws were adopted. Its meetings have been held ever since at the same places as the county society. The members are practising allopathic physicians of Reading and the surrounding towns. Membership in 1909 was 65.

THE PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was organized May 10, 1871, with the following physicians as its first officers:

President, D. L. Beaver; vice-presidents, Martin Luther, B. F. Bunn; secretary and treasurer, M. Albert Rhoads.

The members constituted the other faction of physicians upon the disbanding of the "Berks County Medical Society," and they kept up its meetings for nearly twenty years. During this time, the bitter feeling, shown in such a marked manner in 1870, had entirely subsided and the surviving members had gradually identified themselves with the "Medical Society of Berks County."

ALLOPATHIC PRACTITIONERS.—The names of the allopathic physicians of the county, with college and year of graduation, are presented herewith in alphabetical order; and they have been classified as at Reading, in the boroughs, and in the several sections of the county. [D indicates decease; R, removed out of county.]

READING

Jacob S. Ammon, D.	U. of Pa., 1868
George W. Ammon, D.	Jefferson, 1888
Jacob D. Albright	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1893
Solomon G. Birch, D.	Jefferson, 1825
Joseph Brackbill.	U. of Pa., 1869
George B. M. Bower.	Maryland Univ., 1887
Henry G. Baer.	Jefferson, 1888
John L. Bower.	Jefferson, 1888
Samuel R. Bricker.	Jefferson, 1889
Francis H. Brobst.	Jefferson, 1888
Daniel R. Brobst.	Jefferson, 1895
John M. Bertollet.	Jefferson, 1896
Hiester Bucher.	U. of Pa., 1897
Josiah T. Bunting, R.	U. of Pa., 1894
Thomas C. Buchanan.	U. of Pa., 1900
Samuel G. Burkholder.	N. W. Univ., 1900

John B. Brooke, D.	Jefferson, 1858
D. Llewellyn Beaver, D.	Pa. College, 1841
Daniel B. D. Beaver.	U. of Pa., 1871
Charles W. Bachman.	Jefferson, 1881
Darius Z. Bowman, D.	Baltimore, 1880
Jeremiah K. Bowers.	Phila. Amer. Univ., 1872
John N. Becker.	Jefferson, 1887
Frank W. Bucks.	Jefferson, 1886
William S. Bertollet.	U. of Pa., 1900
Henry P. Brunner.	U. of Pa., 1908
Joseph Coblentz, D.	U. of Pa., 1849
Israel Cleaver.	U. of Pa., 1863
Alfred J. Cressman, D.	U. of Pa., 1879
Emma O. Cleaver.	Pa. Woman's, 1905
Ferdinando Colletti.	Italy, 1896
R. M. Culler.	Jefferson, 1901
George Ray Curry.	Balt. Med. College, 1906
Charles A. Deininger, D.	U. of Pa., 1855
William N. Davis, D.	Jefferson, 1860
Adam B. Dundor.	Jefferson, 1862
W. N. Davis, D.	Jefferson, 1860
Aaron C. Detweiler, D.	Jefferson, 1864
Washington C. Detweiler, D.	Jefferson, 1877
Thomas A. Dunkel, D.	Jefferson, 1865
William B. Dewees, D.	U. of Pa., 1877
Joseph C. Davis.	Jefferson, 1875
C. A. F. Detweiler.	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1888
Charles J. Dietrich.	U. of Pa., 1903
George E. Dietrich.	Med.-Chi., 1906
Samuel C. Ermentrout.	U. of Pa., 1866
Jacob R. Esterly, R.	Jefferson, 1891
Albert F. East.	Jefferson, 1893
John V. Epler, D.	Pa. College
Oliver H. Fisher.	U. of Pa., 1872
James A. Fisher, D.	Pa. College, 1853
Elias H. Frantz, D.	Jefferson, 1873
F. W. Frankhauser.	Jefferson, 1880
Oscar Edwin Fox.	U. of Pa., 1906
John F. Feick.	Jefferson, 1872
John R. Faust.	Baltimore, 1886
E. H. Fenstermaker.	Baltimore, 1898
William E. Fisher.	U. of Pa., 1899
Lloyd H. Feick.	Baltimore, 1902
George S. Goodhart, D.	Pa. College, 1849
Frank H. Good, D.	U. of Pa., 1878
John B. Griesemer, D.	Jefferson, 1856
Charles H. Gerhard.	U. of Pa., 1908
W. H. Goodenough, D.	1866
Frederick Grandier, R.	Jefferson, 1885
David S. Grim.	Michigan Univ., 1900
James R. Gerhard.	U. of Pa., 1901
Malcolm Z. Gearhart.	Jefferson, 1906
Franklin J. Gable.	Jefferson, 1907
Wellington D. Griesemer.	Jefferson, 1908
Charles H. Hunter, D.	U. of Pa., 1841
Frank M. Hiester, D.	U. of Pa., 1852
Samuel B. Heckman, D.	Jefferson, 1868
J. S. Hinnershotz, D.	U. of Pa., 1881
Robert P. Hayett.	Jefferson, 1879
James M. Hoffman, D.	Jefferson, 1858
H. H. Herbst, R.	U. of Pa., 1881
Joseph H. Hageman, D.	U. of Pa., 1871
Charles Edward Hoffman, D.	
Isaac Hiester, D.	U. of Pa.
John P. Hiester, D.	U. of Pa.
James M. Hoffman, D.	U. of Pa.
Henry Hageman, D.	1853
Howard F. Hansell.	Jefferson, 1879
Harry A. Heeler.	U. of Pa., 1888
William T. Hoffman, D.	Jefferson, 1854
Irwin H. Hartman.	U. of Pa., 1905
William A. J. Halbeisen.	Jefferson, 1897
Oscar E. Hofmann.	Jefferson, 1907
Grace M. Harcourt, R.	Baltimore, 1904
Ralph A. Harding.	Geo. Washington Univ., 1908
Erle G. Hawman.	U. of Pa., 1907
John Y. Hoffman, D.	Jefferson, 1889

Isaac B. Hacker.....	Jefferson, 1879	Walter A. Rigg.....	U. of Pa., 1895
Frank N. Irvin, R.....	U. of Pa., 1893	Mayer Rosen.....	Jefferson, 1897
George F. Johnson.....	Jefferson, 1887	Charles Roland.....	U. of Pa., 1898
Jacob R. Johns.....	Jefferson, 1889	John H. Rorke.....	U. of Pa., 1901
Charles W. F. Kreye, D.....	Germany, 1845	Homer J. Rhode.....	Pa. W. Univ., 1901
Samuel L. Kurtz.....	Jefferson, 1854	Samuel B. Rigg.....	U. of Pa., 1903
L. De B. Kuhn, R.....	U. of Pa., 1854	Frank G. Runyon.....	U. of Pa., 1903
Ellis J. Kurtz.....	Jefferson, 1850	Charles T. Reber, D.....	Jefferson, 1856
James W. Keiser, D.....	U. of Pa., 1852	R. B. Rowe.....	U. of Pa., 1883
Thomas E. Krum.....	Baltimore, 1886	C. W. G. Schlemm, D.....	Pa. College, 1848
Clarence M. Kurtz.....	Jefferson, 1886	W. E. Schlemm, D.....	U. of Pa., 1854
Elizabeth Kendig, R.....	Pa. Woman's, 1886	John Stephen, D.....	U. of Pa., 1846
Henry G. Krause.....	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1887	C. E. Shoemaker, D.....	Pa. College, 1860
Clifford L. Kaucher.....	Med.-Chi., 1907	John B. Sterley, D.....	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1857
Franklin J. Kantner.....	Jefferson, 1888	George W. Seip.....	Jefferson, 1862
Chester K. Kistler.....	Jefferson, 1897	Adam Schoener, D.....	Pa. College, 1840
Elmer C. Kieffer.....	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1899	Decatur G. Schoener, D.....	Pa. College, 1853
Alvin J. Kistler.....	Jefferson, 1902	Frederick Spang, D.....	Jefferson, 1860
J. W. Kaufman.....	Jefferson, 1896	Charles J. Schulze, D.....	Germany (1848), 1853
Clara Shetter Keiser.....	Pa. Woman's, 1885	Erastus R. Scholl, D.....	Pa. College, 1856
George W. Kehl.....	Pa. W. Univ., 1893	Aaron Smith, D.....	N. Y. Med., 1834
Morris W. Koch, R.....	Jefferson, 1896	Thomas A. Strasser.....	U. of Pa., 1867
Meyer J. Katz, R.....	Jefferson, 1903	S. W. Sine.....	U. of Pa., 1871
Martin Luther, D.....	Jefferson, 1848	Ann Jane Schulze.....	1862
Henry Landis, D.....	U. of Pa., 1861	John Stolze, D.....	Phila. Eclectic, 1865
E. J. Longhorn, R.....	1871	Walker R. Stephen, D.....	U. of Pa., 1872
Charles G. Loose.....	U. of Pa., 1868	I. N. E. Shoemaker, D.....	1870
Daniel G. Long.....	U. of Pa., 1875	John Schoenfeld, D.....	1861
James B. Lewis.....	U. of Pa., 1878	Stanley Smith.....	Jefferson, 1868
Bernard R. Lee, R.....	Jefferson, 1879	John K. Seaman.....	N. Y. Bellevue, 1869
Thomas H. Leidy.....	Jefferson, 1869	Albert Simon, D.....	1870
Emil C. Luks.....	Berlin, 1853	Rudolph B. Schulze.....	Jefferson, 1883
Daniel Longaker.....	Pa. W. Univ., 1891	Albert W. Sovereign.....	Ontario, 1879
John W. Luther, R.....	U. of Pa., 1899	Mary A. Swayze, R.....	Pa. Woman's, 1873
Israel J. K. Light, R.....	U. of Pa., 1899	Horace E. Schlenm.....	Jefferson, 1886
William W. Livingood.....	Pa. W. Univ., 1899	John M. Stephen.....	Jefferson, 1887
George K. Levan.....	Med.-Chi., 1908	Eliza A. Shetter, R.....	Pa. Woman's, 1886
Jacob Marshall, D.....	U. of Pa., 1810	Jacob W. Seip.....	Jefferson, 1853
Miles F. McTaggart, R.....	Pa. Eclectic, 1865	Ira G. Shoemaker.....	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1891
Isaac L. Mingle.....	Jefferson, 1866	George R. Shenk.....	Jefferson, 1889
James D. Y. Madeira.....	Jefferson, 1883	William Seaman.....	U. of Pa., 1892
Thomas B. Miller.....	Baltimore, 1896	John Skartle.....	Jefferson, 1893
Edward G. Meter.....	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1897	Edwin D. Schaeffer.....	Baltimore, 1893
John E. Medley.....	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1898	Seymour T. Schinckl.....	Jefferson, 1891
Thomas H. Mackin.....	Pa. W. Univ., 1900	Harry D. Stryker.....	U. of Pa., 1893
William F. Muhlberg.....	U. of Pa., 1868	Mary McD. Shick.....	Pa. Woman's, 1895
James M. Matthews.....	Jefferson, 1840	Alvah A. Swayze.....	Baltimore, 1897
Philip D. Marshall, D.....	Jefferson, 1852	Christopher Shearer.....	U. of Pa., 1897
Elija Martin.....	1861	Albert N. Seidel.....	Baltimore, 1901
Charles McDonough, D.....	Pa. College, 1848	Edwin Y. Seyler.....	Baltimore, 1903
Henry C. Mohr, D.....	Jefferson, 1871	Amos B. Schnader, R.....	Jefferson, 1903
John C. McCoy.....	N. Y. Univ., 1879	Wayne L. Scheerer.....	U. of Pa., 1904
Matthias Mengel, Jr., R.....	U. of Pa., 1885	Charles K. Seidel.....	Baltimore, 1904
Frederick LeRoy Mattern.....	Jefferson, 1903	Sidney J. Sondheim.....	U. of Pa., 1907
Rudolph C. Möllmann.....	U. of Pa., 1908	Walter H. Scheehl.....	Med.-Chi., 1907
Hiestor M. Nagle, D.....	Jefferson, 1857	Henry Tyson, D.....	Pa. College, 1843
William V. D. Nichols, R.....	U. of Pa., 1885	L. H. Thompson, D.....	Jefferson, 1853
Bodo Otto, D.....	Gottingen, 1735	Oan J. Thompson.....	Jefferson, 1895
John A. Otto, D.....	1803	Louis L. Thompson.....	Jefferson, 1896
John B. Otto, D.....	U. of Pa., 1803	Samuel B. Taylor.....	Jefferson, 1895
George W. Overholser.....	Pa. W. Univ., 1902	Daniel A. Ulrich, D.....	Jefferson, 1841
John H. Orff.....	Baltimore, 1904	Alexander H. Witman, D.....	U. of Pa., 1881
Jonathan Potts, D.....	Phila. Med. Inst., 1768	Harrison T. Witman.....	Jefferson, 1861
Theodore Pachla, D.....	Germany, 1865	Edward Wallace, R.....	U. of Pa., 1860
James B. R. Powell.....	U. of Pa., 1878	W. Murray Weidman, D.....	U. of Pa., 1860
Louis W. Prevost.....	1886	M. LeRoy Wenger, D.....	N. Y. Bellevue, 1874
Howard M. Parvin.....	Baltimore, 1887	Gershon Wenger.....	U. of Pa., 1881
Ambrose Peffer, R.....	Jefferson, 1887	W. W. A. Wuldingh, D.....	Amsterdam, 1876
Frank Rieser.....	Pa. College, 1852	Albert P. Walter.....	Baltimore, 1884
M. S. Reber.....	U. of Pa., 1863	Levi F. Wagner.....	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1890
M. Albert Rhoads, D.....	Jefferson, 1868	Victor W. Wickert.....	Jefferson, 1891
Simon Reinhold.....	Germany, 1863	William S. Wray, R.....	U. of Pa., 1896
A. S. Raudenbush.....	Jefferson, 1864	A. Wildberger.....	U. of Pa., 1892
Walter S. Riegel, R.....	U. of Pa., 1892	Abraham K. Wanner.....	Jefferson, 1898
Harry F. Rentschler.....	Jefferson, 1893	LeRoy J. C. Wenger.....	N. Y. Univ., 1903
Howard S. Reeser.....	Jefferson, 1867	William C. Werts, R.....	Baltimore, 1904
Wilson H. Rothermel.....	Jefferson, 1894	John G. Wilson, R.....	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1904

Raymond K. Weber.....Jefferson, 1905
 Jesse Levan Wagner.....U. of Pa., 1907
 Harry H. Wanner.....Jefferson, 1907
 Rex S. K. Wood.....U. of Mich. and Jeff., 1907
 Abel E. West.....Leonard Coll., N. C., 1909
 C. K. Young.....Baltimore, 1879

BOROUGHES

Enoch Bricker, Bernville, D.....
 William S. Bieber, Kutztown.....
 Wellington G. Byerle, Bernville.....Jefferson, 1853
 John A. Brobst, Bernville.....U. of Pa., 1867
 Edward Brobst, West Leesport, D.....Pa. College, 1853
 Martin L. Bertollette, Mt. Penn.....U. of Pa., 1878
 John S. Bowman, Boyertown.....U. of Pa., 1878
 Benjamin F. Bunn, Birdsboro, D.....Jefferson, 1846
 Henry B. Brusstar, Birdsboro, R.....Jefferson, 1873
 John S. Borneman, Boyertown.....U. of Pa., 1873
 Daniel Deppen, Bernville, D.....
 James Donagan, Kutztown.....
 Darius D. Deppen, Bernville, D.....Pa. College, 1853
 Darius W. Dundor, Womelsdorf.....U. of Pa., 1881
 Frank P. Dundor, West Leesport.....Jefferson, 1870
 Charles B. Dotterer, Boyertown.....Med.-Chi., 1907
 C. F. DeLong, Bechtelsville, D.....N. Y. Univ., 1888
 N. Z. Dunkelberger, Kutztown.....Phila. Med.-Chi., 1890
 George N. Eckert, Womelsdorf, D.....1824
 L. K. Francis, Boyertown.....U. of Pa., 1871
 A. M. Fretz, Fleetwood.....U. of Pa., 1863
 A. P. Fogleman, Womelsdorf.....U. of Pa., 1884
 George W. Fahrenbach, Bernville.....Baltimore, 1900
 William Gries, Womelsdorf, D.....U. of Pa., 1822
 Charles A. Gerasch, Kutztown, D.....Germany
 Alexander S. Gillars, Birdsboro.....Jefferson, 1888
 Oscar T. Gehris, Fleetwood.....Boston Univ., 1898
 Reuben Haines, Kutztown.....
 W. H. J. Henkey, Boyertown.....Jefferson, 1879
 Edward Hottenstein, Kutztown.....Jefferson, 1853
 Edward L. Hottenstein, Kutztown.....Jefferson, 1886
 A. C. L. Hottenstein, Kutztown.....Jefferson, 1871
 William Harris, Hamburg, D.....Jefferson, 1869
 William J. Hottenstein, Kutztown.....Jefferson, 1859
 Eugene T. Hancock, Boyertown, R.....Jefferson, 1891
 A. S. C. Herman, Topton.....U. of Pa., 1881
 M. A. Hengst, Birdsboro, D.....Jefferson, 1878
 Charles A. Hottenstein, Kutztown.....Jefferson, 1895
 Aaron E. Hain, Birdsboro.....U. of South, 1895
 James A. Harris, Hamburg.....Jefferson, 1896
 Milton E. Hartman, Fleetwood.....Jefferson, 1902
 E. K. Hottenstein, Kutztown.....Jefferson, 1883
 George Hetrick, Birdsboro.....Jefferson, 1885
 Henry W. Johnson, Boyertown, D.....Jefferson, 1841
 Frederick S. Kaufman, Kutztown.....U. of Pa., 1891
 Isaac I. Kalbach, Centreport.....Jefferson, 1893
 Oscar F. Kunkel, Lenhartsville.....Jefferson, 1903
 James C. Livingood, Womelsdorf, D.....1841
 Louis Livingood, Womelsdorf, D.....Jefferson, 1854
 John Leshar, Womelsdorf.....
 John Livingood, Womelsdorf, D.....
 Horace F. Livingood, Womelsdorf.....Jefferson, 1882
 Charles E. Lerch, Womelsdorf.....Jefferson, 1905
 George H. Landis, Birdsboro, D.....1859
 Caleb Liggett, Birdsboro, D.....
 James Lincoln, Birdsboro, D.....Jefferson, 1878
 Frank P. Lytle, Birdsboro.....Pa. W. Univ., 1894
 Rufus E. LeFevre, Boyertown, R.....Jefferson, 1900
 William Moore, Womelsdorf, D.....N. Y. Univ., 1826
 Joseph E. Miller, Kutztown.....Jefferson, 1886
 Joseph F. Merkel, Boyertown, R.....U. of Pa., 1894
 James G. Matterness, Centreport.....Jefferson, 1897
 Ira K. Moser, Birdsboro, D.....Jefferson, 1880
 William J. Martin, Hamburg.....Jefferson, 1881
 Franklin V. Nyce, Hamburg, D.....Jefferson, 1851
 Franklin M. Nyce, Hamburg.....Jefferson, 1870
 Benjamin Nyce, Hamburg, D.....Jefferson, 1878
 Henry G. Nyce, Hamburg.....Jefferson, 1883

Howard Y. Neyman, Boyertown, R.....Jefferson, 1879
 Jonathan B. Potteiger, Hamburg.....Jefferson, 1859
 Walker S. Phillips, Womelsdorf.....1869
 George F. Potteiger, Hamburg.....Jefferson, 1890
 George H. Pflueger, Topton.....Baltimore, 1908
 Thomas J. B. Rhoads, Boyertown.....Baltimore, 1861
 Pius Rothermel, Birdsboro.....U. of Pa., 1889
 Reuben B. Rhoads, Boyertown.....Jefferson, 1857
 Clarence C. Rether, Centreport.....Jefferson, 1884
 Lewis P. Rothermel, Lenhartsville.....Med.-Chi., 1908
 Christian L. Schlemm, Kutztown, D., Gottingen Univ., 1798
 F. L. Sallade, Womelsdorf.....Jefferson, 1876
 John H. Spatz, Centreport.....Pa. College, 1848
 Samuel B. Swavely, Birdsboro, R.....Jefferson, 1877
 Henry H. Snavelly, Bernville.....1878
 Frank R. Sallade, Womelsdorf.....Jefferson, 1893
 Adam F. M. Stump, Fleetwood.....Phila. Med.-Chi., 1902
 Charles C. Stauffer, Boyertown, R.....U. of Pa., 1903
 Henry M. Saul, Kutztown.....Baltimore, 1894
 Charles E. Schlappig, Bernville.....Baltimore, 1908
 Jeremiah S. Trexler, Kutztown, D.....U. of Pa., 1853
 Samuel M. Todd, Boyertown, D.....U. of Pa., 1865
 W. D. Trexler, Topton.....N. Y. Bellevue, 1886
 John H. Todd, Boyertown, R.....U. of Pa., 1893
 Charles H. Wanner, Kutztown D.....
 William Woods, Womelsdorf, D.....
 Cyrus Wanner, Kutztown, D.....1875
 John R. Wagner, Hamburg.....N. Y. Bellevue, 1886
 Charles D. Werley, Topton.....Jefferson, 1889
 Samuel E. Wertman, Bechtelsville, R.....Jefferson, 1889
 William S. Wolfe, Fleetwood.....Jefferson, 1897
 George White, Womelsdorf.....Ky. School of Med., 1905
 George W. Ziegler, Lenhartsville, Ky. Sch. of Med., 1887

MANATAWNY SECTION

Charles Baum, Exeter, D.....
 Wm. J. C. Baum, Amity, D.....
 John C. Baum, Amity, D.....
 Peter G. Bertollet, Oley, D.....U. of Pa., 1845
 Oswin W. Berky, Washington.....Phila. Med.-Chi., 1901
 Walter M. Bertollet, Oley.....Jefferson, 1902
 Frank R. Brunner, Eshbach, D.....Jefferson, 1861
 Daniel W. Bortz, Esterly.....Baltimore, 1885
 Calvin K. Christman, Bally, D.....U. of Pa., 1869
 Monroe F. Clouser, Oley.....Med.-Chi., 1908
 George de Benneville, Oley, D.....France, 1745
 Mark Darrah, Amity, D.....
 George S. Engler, Temple, D.....U. of Pa., 1863
 J. Wilson Eckert, Temple.....Jefferson, 1894
 Ephraim H. Egolf, Amityville.....Jefferson, 1884
 Amandus N. Fegley, Spangsville.....Jefferson, 1870
 M. O. Greenewald, Shanesville, D.....U. of Pa., 1872
 Alfred O. Gery, Herefordville.....Jefferson, 1893
 John C. Hersh, Herefordville.....U. of Pa., 1876
 Charles H. Hartline, Friedensburg.....Jefferson, 1892
 William Herbst, Pikeville, D.....Jefferson, 1825
 George E. M. Herbst, Oley.....Jefferson, 1873
 William F. Hertzog, New Jerusalem; L. Island Col., 1880
 J. A. Hatfield, Oley, R.....U. of Pa., 1862
 Roswell F. Herman, Douglassville.....U. of Pa., 1870
 Warren E. G. High, Esterly, R.....U. of Pa., 1894
 John A. Jack, Oley, D.....U. of Pa., 1862
 Augustus Knoeske, District, D.....
 Paul Kreye, Oley, D.....1871
 Elias Kitchen, Amity, D.....Vermont College, 1850
 Andrian Loewen, Friedensburg, D.....Prussia, 1825
 Jacob S. Ludwig, Amityville, R.....Phila. Med.-Chi., 1903
 Ralph Y. Lechner, Hereford.....Jefferson, 1890
 James May, Amity, D.....
 Daniel McLean, Amity.....Jefferson, 1873
 Michael Ludwig, Amity, D.....U. of Pa., 1815
 Eiam B. Mauger, Douglass, R.....Jefferson, 1875
 Jacob Plank, Oley, D.....Switzerland, 1700
 Milton W. Phillips, Eshbach.....Med.-Chi., 1908
 Jacob Rothrock, Ruscombmanor, D.....
 John A. Roth, Siesholtzville, R.....U. of Pa., 1876



Joel Y. Schelley, Hereford, D.....
 William S. Schantz, Huff's Church.....U. of Pa., 1888
 Jacob A. Trexler, Pikeville, R.....Jefferson, 1901
 Charles Weber, Pricetown, D.....Germany, 1848
 Isaac B. Yeakel, Bally.....U. of Pa., 1866

ONTELAUNEE SECTION

Wilson D. DeLong, Blandon.....Vermont Univ., 1883
 Milton H. Fritch, Virginville.....Jefferson, 1871
 Nicholas K. Fisher, Shoemakersville.....Jefferson, 1883
 W. E. Hunsberger, Maiden-creek.....Jefferson, 1864
 Adam J. Heberly, Kempton.....1870
 Irwin F. Huff, Kempton.....Vermont Univ., 1893
 William F. Howter, Kempton.....Phila. Med.-Chi., 1905
 Henry H. Herb, Mertztown.....Phila. Med.-Chi., 1904
 William H. Hunsberger, Maiden-creek.....Jefferson, 1893
 Morris H. Koch, Lyons.....N. Y. Bellevue, 1880
 Jesse G. Kistler, Albany.....Baltimore, 1888
 M. S. Long, Longswamp, D.....U. of Pa., 1862
 John A. Long, Longswamp.....Baltimore, 1893
 Howard A. Long, Longswamp.....Baltimore, 1893
 Howard U. Miller, Leesport.....Med.-Chi., 1908
 Milton S. Richards, Maxatawny, D.....Jefferson, 1867
 John D. Rupp, Richmond.....N. Y. Bellevue Hosp., 1877
 H. W. Swenk, Krumsville.....N. Y. Bellevue, 1881
 Wilson M. Snyder, Mohrsville.....Baltimore, 1883
 Henry M. Schall, Shoemakersville.....Jefferson, 1887
 James Smith, Maxatawny.....Jefferson, 1895
 I. M. Shollenberger, Lyons.....Baltimore, 1901
 Owen H. Wily, Berkley, D.....Jefferson, 1831
 Penrose Wily, Leesport, D.....Jefferson, 1850
 James F. Wertz, Longswamp, D.....Pa. College, 1861
 Peter W. Wertz, Longswamp, D.....U. of Pa., 1864
 Bartholomew Yeager, Lyons, D.....Germany, 1848

TULPEHOCKEN SECTION

Thomas M. Angstadt, Strausstown.....Jefferson, 1890
 William S. Buchler, Wernersville.....Jefferson, 1889
 Thomas G. Binkley, Sinking Spring.....Jefferson, 1888
 John M. Brause, Shartlesville.....Jefferson, 1873
 George A. Bickel, Rehrersburg, D.....Jefferson, 1878
 Levi G. Batdorff, Mt. Aetna, D.....Pa. College, 1856
 Henry Batdorff, Millersburg, D.....U. of Pa., 1876
 M. D. M. Batdorff, Millersburg, D.....U. of Pa., 1867
 Daniel B. Brobst, Stouchsburg.....Jefferson, 1882
 Henry L. Bollman, Robesonia.....Jefferson, 1884
 John A. Conrad, Robesonia.....Long Island Hospital, 1867
 William F. Christ, Kehrsburg.....1871(1883)
 James W. Deppen, Wernersville, D.....N. Y. Univ., 1850
 Jacob H. Drawbaugh, Robesonia.....Baltimore, 1886
 Thomas C. Fanning, Walter's Park, R.....N. Y. Univ., 1861
 John W. Frankhouser, Shartlesville, Phila. Med.-Chi., 1889
 C. R. Gaul, Sinking Spring.....U. of Pa., 1884
 Oratio W. Gass, Mt. Aetna.....Phila. Med.-Chi., 1898
 David H. Hain, Wernersville.....Jefferson, 1881
 Charles F. Hertzog, Mt. Aetna.....Phila. Med.-Chi., 1889
 John H. Horne, Schaefferstown.....Jefferson, 1891
 Leonard G. Hain, Wernersville.....Jefferson, 1893
 Christian N. Hoffman, Sinking Spring, D.....Jefferson, 1862
 J. S. Herbein, Sinking Spring, D.....Jefferson, 1865
 Isaac S. Herbein, Strausstown, D.....Jefferson, 1865
 Oscar B. Herbein, Strausstown.....Jefferson, 1895
 Samuel S. Hill, Wernersville Asylum, Pa. W. Univ., 1894
 T. B. Hossler, Upper Bern, D.....1865
 Warren F. Klein, Strausstown.....Jefferson, 1887
 Alden B. MacDonald, Wernersville, R.....Jefferson, 1906
 Isaac W. Newcomet, Stouchsburg.....Pa. W. Univ., 1867
 James S. Preston, L. Heidelberg. Hygeo-Therap. N. Y., 1873
 Robert P. Preston, L. Heidelberg.....Jefferson, 1883
 Mary Preston, L. Heidelberg.....Pa. Woman's, 1884
 Abram Ruth, Fritztown, D.....Pa. College, 1841
 W. F. Ross, Wernersville, R.....Baltimore, 1881
 Adam Schoener, Rehrersburg, D.....U. of Pa., 1820
 C. B. Strohm, Shartlesville, D.....1834
 Adam J. Schoener, Rehrersburg, D.....Pa. College, 1860
 J. M. Strohm, Shartlesville.....N. Y. Univ., 1881

Stephen W. Seyman, Wernersville..Phila. Med.-Chi., 1899
 H. Forsythe Stapp, Bethel.....Balt. Univ., 1907
 Michael Tryon, Kehrsburg, D.....
 Jacob Tryon, Rehrersburg, D.....1821
 John S. Tryon, Rehrersburg, D.....U. of Pa., 1857
 John A. Tenny, Wernersville, D. Hygeo-Therap. N. Y., 1868
 Reuben I. Wenrich, Wernersville.....U. of Pa., 1864
 E. C. L. Walter, Walter's Park, Hygeo-Therap. N. Y., 1876
 Maud M. Walter, Walter's Park.....Pa. Woman's, 1898
 John H. Wahl, Hiester's Mills.....Indiana College, 1888
 George G. Wenrich, Wernersville.....U. of Pa., 1894
 John A. Wenrich, Wernersville.....U. of Pa., 1906
 William A. Yenser, Strausstown.....Jefferson, 1893
 Lucia Anna Wheeler, Wernersville, Women's Med. Col., 1907

SCHUYLKILL SECTION

Eugene R. DeLong, Geiger's Mills.....Jefferson, 1891
 Tobias S. Gerhard, Beckersville.....U. of Pa., 1864
 F. R. Gerhard, Union.....U. of Pa., 1869
 Isaac Halterman, Beckersville.....1848
 Martin L. Huyett, Shillington.....Pa. W. Univ., 1900
 D. W. B. Kuyp, Gibraltar.....U. of Pa., 1882
 Daniel W. Martin, Morgantown.....Jefferson, 1907
 D. Heber Plank, Morgantown, D.....U. of Pa., 1867
 Henry Palm, Geigertown.....Pa. College, 1850
 Jonathan Pounder, Morgantown, D.....1830
 Herbert L. Quickel.....Med.-Chi., 1909
 Conrad S. Reber, West Reading.....Jefferson, 1903
 William Rollman, Geigertown.....Jefferson, 1857
 John Vaughan Smith, Joanna, D.....U. of Pa., 1829
 J. Howard Smith, Joanna, D.....U. of Pa., 1838
 James Y. Shearer, Sinking Spring.....Jefferson, 1862
 R. S. Schweitzer, Shillington.....Baltimore, 1881
 John Schnader, Brecknock.....1864
 W. B. Schoener, Mohnsville.....U. of Pa., 1882
 Allison A. Stamm, Mohnsville.....Vermont Univ., 1883
 Frank W. Wiley, Mohnsville.....Jefferson, 1887
 William S. Yoder, Morgantown.....Phila. Med.-Chi., 1898
 Joseph A. Zook.....U. of Pa., 1909

HOMOEOPATHY

The practice of the Homoeopathic school of medicine was started at Reading in 1810, by a German physician of distinction, named Adolph Lippe. He practised here two years, then removed to Carlisle.

Dr. John Henry Behne was a graduated allopathic physician from Wuerzburg, in Bavaria, and emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1840, when forty years old, locating at Reading. He became intimate with Dr. Lippe and through him was converted to the practice of homoeopathy. He was a man of fine literary culture and superior character and had a large and lucrative practice. He died at Reading in 1876.

Dr. George R. Starkey (of Maine) settled at Reading in 1855 and practised homoeopathy for several years and then removed to Philadelphia. He was followed by Dr. R. Sargent, who also practised for a few years; and then Dr. Benjamin R. Bratt began in 1858, who continued in active and successful practice until his decease in 1872. By that time, homoeopathy had become thoroughly established, and it has been carried on successfully and prominently until now by a number of physicians.

Rev. John Helfrich became the first homoeopathic physician in the country districts, having graduated in 1835 at Allentown and afterward settled at Kutztown. He was succeeded by his son, Dr. John

Henry Helfrich, who practised at Kutztown from 1866 to 1877 and then removed to Allentown.

Dr. F. R. Krebs practised at Hamburg from 1857 to 1894, when he removed to Reading; and he was succeeded by Dr. Frederick Isett, and Dr. Joseph Hatzfield, who had been students under him.

THE HAHNEMANN MEDICAL SOCIETY OF READING was organized in 1882, in the office of Dr. Samuel R. Rittenhouse, at No. 38 South Fourth street, by eight homoeopathic physicians of Reading, and it had an active existence for about ten years.

THE HOMOEOPATHIC PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATION OF READING was organized in 1896 and it has come to be the representative society of the homoeopathic school of medicine in this vicinity. The meetings are held monthly for the discussion of scientific papers; and the July or midsummer meeting is held at one of the mountain resorts near the city. The midsummer meeting is also attended by members of the homoeopathic county societies of eastern Pennsylvania.

The following named homoeopathic physicians constitute its membership:

W. F. Marks	M. L. Miller
D. C. Kline	F. E. Howell
H. F. Schantz	J. E. Harner
Margaret Hassler Schantz	G. I. Keen
C. R. Haman	W. A. Haman
F. W. Seidel	E. M. Deacon
C. M. Richards	F. F. Massey

HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITAL OF READING.—During the summer of 1888, Dr. E. R. Scholl invited the homoeopathic physicians of Reading to assemble at his office, No. 517 Walnut street, to organize a Homoeopathic Dispensary Association, and an organization was then effected by the election of Dr. Scholl as president and Dr. D. C. Kline as secretary. They proceeded immediately to open a dispensary at the corner of Franklin and Plum streets, and rendered much needed service to the poor of the city. Upon being incorporated in 1891, a board of trustees was organized and the present property on North Sixth street, beyond Washington, was purchased through the generosity of friends and the public; and the trustees were enabled to open the hospital in July, 1891.

Many ladies became interested in its welfare and they organized a "Ladies Auxiliary," which rendered valuable service in the maintenance of the hospital. Later a "Young Ladies Auxiliary" was organized "to supply flowers, delicacies and luxuries" to patients, and they raised funds at various times for the renovation of parts of the hospital, and the purchase of instruments and supplies.

A training school for nurses has been conducted in the hospital from the beginning, proving of great benefit to the hospital in addition to the training of young women as nurses, in the community.

From time to time various improvements were made to the building, fitting it more thoroughly for a hospital, until in 1905 the demand for rooms be-

came so great that a new building was erected in the rear of the main building, increasing the capacity to seventy-five beds in public and private wards and private rooms, and giving the city a modern and up-to-date hospital under homoeopathic management.

The staff of the hospital is selected from the members of the "Homoeopathic Hospital and Dispensary Association," and while varying somewhat from time to time the following physicians constituted the staff for 1909: W. F. Marks, S. L. Dreibelbis, L. A. Shollenberger, D. C. Kline, H. F. Schantz, C. R. Haman, M. Hassler Schantz, L. M. Richards, F. E. Howell, and W. A. Haman.

HOMOEOPATHIC PRACTITIONERS.—The names of the homoeopathic physicians are presented also in alphabetical order for the entire county on account of the limited number in the districts out of Reading.

H. M. Allen, Reading.	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1894
George W. Crock, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1889
Samuel L. Dreibelbis, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1861
D. Frank Dreibelbis, Reading, R.	Hahnemann, 1890
Edward M. Deacon, Birdsboro.	Hahnemann, 1894
C. A. F. Detweiler, Reading.	Med.-Chi., 1888
Solomon L. Dreibelbis, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1907
John Ege, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1882
David W. Ensinger, Mt. Aetna.	Hahnemann, 1902
J. G. Grosscup, Reading, D.	Hahnemann, 1873
Paul H. Gerhardt, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1908
William A. Haman, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1883
Frederick E. Howell, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1909
Charles R. Haman, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1891
George W. Heck, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1907
Charles T. Haines, Sinking Spring.	Hahnemann, 1908
Joseph F. Isett, Hamburg.	Hahnemann, 1876
John C. Knauer, Reading.	
.....Col. of Phys. & Surg., Baltimore.	1886
Chester B. Jennings, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1881
L. J. Knerr, Reading, R.	Hahnemann, 1880
D. C. Kline, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1883
Calvin L. Klopp, Stouchsburg, D.	Hahnemann, 1887
George I. Keen, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1892
Henry R. Klopp, Reading, R.	Hahnemann, 1894
Egbert Leroy Klock, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1906
Frank H. Lawrence, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1906
Franklin F. Massey, Womelsdorf.	Hahnemann, 1903
A. S. McDowell, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1896
William F. Marks, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1869
Alvin I. Miller, Reading, R.	Hahnemann, 1872
Martin L. Miller, Mohnsville.	Hahnemann, 1898
William E. Morgan, Reading, R.	Hahnemann, 1900
Theodore Pachali, Reading.	
.....Med. Dept. U. of Kiel, Germany.	1869
Isadore L. Peters, Kutztown.	Hahnemann, 1888
John S. M. Pratt, Reading, R.	Hahnemann, 1903
J. S. Rittenhouse, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1885
Charles M. Richards, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1899
J. C. Sanders, Reading.	N. Y. Homoeopathic, 1900
Francis R. Schmucker, Reading, D.	
.....N. Y. Homoeopathic.	1873
E. Z. Schmucker, Reading, D.	Hahnemann, 1870
E. K. Steckel, Kutztown.	Hahnemann, 1884
L. A. Schollenberger, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1884
A. Cecil Stewart, Ridgewood, R.	
.....N. Y. Homeopathic.	1887
Horace J. Shinkle, Reading, R.	Hahnemann, 1880
Henry F. Schantz, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1891
Frank W. Seidel, Reading.	Hahnemann, 1894
M. Hassler Schantz, Reading.	
.....Cleveland Homo. Med. Col.,	1892



F. W. Sunandy, Hyde Park.....	Hahnemann, 1897
William L. Vaughn, Stouchsburg.....	Hahnemann, 1892
Paul B. Waldman, Reading.....	Hahnemann, 1884
Robert L. Walter, Walter's Park.....	Hahnemann, 1900
Robert Walter, Walter's Park.....	Hahnemann, 1888
Hygeo-Therapeutic, N. Y., 1873.....	Hahnemann, 1888
Joseph M. Walbern, Fleetwood.....	Hahnemann, 1907

OSTEOPATHY

A school of medical science whose therapeutic system constitutes a practice of treating disease in all forms without the aid of drugs was instituted in 1874 by Dr. A. T. Still, of Baldwin, Kans., who is known as the founder of the "School of Osteopathy."

The first college was started in 1894 in Kirksville, Mo. Since that time other colleges have been established in the principal centers of the United States, and there are now osteopathic practitioners in all the large cities and most of the larger towns in the country.

The practice of osteopathy has been legally acknowledged in thirty States; and in many States there is an independent examining and licensing board, or an osteopathic representative on the State Board of Health.

A bill was laid before the Legislature of Pennsylvania at the session of 1904 for the purpose of legalizing the practice in Pennsylvania, but it was not passed. It was, however, recognized in 1909, the Act regulating the practice having been approved March 9th.

The osteopaths have been organized into State associations; also one national, called "The American Osteopathic Association."

Osteopathy was first introduced into Reading in February, 1899, by Dr. Anna C. Towle, but owing to ill health after having practiced for nearly a year, she disposed of her practice to Dr. H. H. Walpole, and he continued it until 1908, when he left the city. Four practitioners are now at Reading, namely:

Laura De Long
H. L. Maxwell and his wife
H. J. Vastine

DENTISTRY

The practice of dentistry was not carried on as a distinct profession in Berks county until about 1850. The first dental college was established at Baltimore shortly before that time, and the next was at Philadelphia in 1851. Theretofore regular physicians extracted teeth. Previously the repair of teeth and the supply of false teeth were rare, confined almost entirely to great cities and indulged in by people of means.

About that time and for twenty years afterward the persons who were inclined to dentistry would spend several months with a recognized dentist and under him acquire some practical experience, then start out for themselves. The first graduated dent-

al surgeons in Berks county from a college were Dr. William H. Scholl and Dr. John W. Clemson, both of Reading, who graduated from the Pennsylvania Dental College at Philadelphia in 1865. Dr. Scholl has practised his profession at Reading ever since, but Dr. Clemson never practised here, having shortly afterward removed to Bordeaux, France, and there carried on (until now) the manufacture of dental supplies.

The earliest recognized dentists at Reading were John Piper, John Arnold, W. K. Breneizer, T. Yardly Brown, and Frank Hickman, the last two still surviving but residing out of the county.

In 1876, an Act was passed—on April 15th—by the Legislature of Pennsylvania which required dental surgeons who practised in the State to be graduates of a reputable institution where this specialty was taught, and to register their diplomas in the county where they resided. The diplomas were to be registered within three months after the passage of the Act. But the Act was not to apply to any surgeon who had practised dentistry for three years prior to its passage. The following statement shows the registered practitioners in the county, with college and year of graduation. Where no college is given, the year shows the time when the practitioner started.

The Act of 1876 established a State Board of six examiners, who were to be selected by the State Dental Society, and this Board was to approve the diplomas before registration. This Act was amended in 1897, and Dr. C. V. Kratzer, of Reading, was one of the members of the first Board under this amended Act, having been appointed by the Governor, but he served only several months, until the appointment of a new Board by the succeeding Governor in January, 1898.

Dr. Wilson D. De Long, of Reading, was appointed as one of the State examiners in September, 1906, for the term of three years.

The thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Lebanon Valley Dental Association was held at Reading, in the Masonic Temple, May 11, 1909.

DENTAL PRACTITIONERS

Morris R. Adam, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1903
Charles S. Bertolet, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1900
Abram L. Bower, Boyertown.....	Pa. University, 1901
Samuel L. Bower, Boyertown.....	Philadelphia, 1902
John T. Bair, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1903
Joseph H. Borneman, Boyertown, D.....	1867
Daniel B. Bower, Boyertown.....	1867
N. S. Borneman, Boyertown, D.....	1881
Joel B. Bower, Boyertown.....	1882
Henry W. Bohn, Reading.....	Pa. University, —
Daniel L. Bower, Boyertown, D.....	Philadelphia, 1892
Edward W. Bohn, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1897
Harry L. Cleaver, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1896
Raymond S. De Long, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1900
George F. De Long, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1903
Frank L. DeGour, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1870
Arthur B. Davis, Reading, R.....	Philadelphia, 1896
Wilson D. DeLong, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1897
William G. Dusto, Reading.....	Medico-Chi., 1906
Charles S. Fry, Reading.....	1872
Charles E. Grim, Reading.....	Philadelphia, 1901

Milton U. Gerhard, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1903
Jacob M. Gartman, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1903
Clarence B. Grim, Reading.....	U. of Pa., 1907
Walter S. Herr, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1897
Abram Herr, Reading.....	1869
H. B. Hamaker, Womelsdorf.....	1867
Kurtz D. Hill, Pennsylvania, 1881	
Glyndeur Hickman, Reading.....	Philadelphia, 1886
Ziba Hickman, Reading.....	Philadelphia, 1888
H. J. Hickey, Reading, R.....	Baltimore, 1884
Charles A. Hottenstein, Kutztown.....	Pennsylvania, 1892
Edwin E. Howarter, Reading.....	Medico-Chi., 1903
Raymond L. Hamaker, Womelsdorf.....	Pa. Dent. Col., 1908
Abraham B. Johnson, Kutztown.....	1880
Harry T. Johnson, Reading.....	1880
Harvey C. Johnson, Reading.....	Philadelphia, 1889
J. F. Kinsey, Reading, D.....	1864
William H. Kalbach, Hamburg.....	1863
William H. Kilmer, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1878
Henry D. Kurtz, Reading, R.....	Baltimore, 1881
C. V. Kratzer, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1897
Frank P. Lewis, Reading.....	Baltimore, 1880
George M. Maxwell, Birdsboro.....	Baltimore, 1898
William Meter, Reading.....	Phila. Med.-Chi., 1900
Jonathan B. Miesse, Reading.....	Philadelphia, 1872
Peter S. Mogel, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1889
George S. Rothermel, Fleetwood.....	Pa. University, 1900
J. L. Ritter, Reading, R.....	1873
G. H. P. Rabenhold, Hamburg.....	Pennsylvania, 1890
Levi H. Reinhart, Birdsboro, D.....	Philadelphia, 1894
George S. Schlegel, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1900
Otto J. Specker, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1902
Myron B. Shuman, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1903
.....	U. of Pa., 1905
Eli Segel, Reading, D.....	1855
William H. Scholl, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1865
Joel E. Segel, Reading, D.....	Philadelphia, 1868
Charles R. Scholl, Reading.....	Philadelphia, 1888
Calvin G. Shomo, Hamburg.....	Pennsylvania, 1889
Walter R. Segel, Reading.....	Philadelphia, 1891
Elton Stimmel, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1893
D. Ambrose Stein, Reading, R.....	Pa. University, 1894
Samuel E. Segel, Reading.....	Philadelphia, 1897
John F. Schoenberger, Reading.....	Medico-Chi., 1905
George Stimmel, Kutztown.....	Pa. Dental College, 1905
Carlos H. Thimme, Reading, R.....	Philadelphia, 1870
Jacob F. Thomas, Reading, R.....	1882
Elwood Tate, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1891
S. Edmund Tate, Reading.....	Pennsylvania, 1897
Caleb D. Thomas, Reading.....	Pa. Dental College, 1906
Hernan G. Wotherspoon, Reading.....	U. of Pa., 1907
Kensie N. Yoder, Wernersville.....	Pa. University, 1903
William L. Yocum, Reading, R.....	Philadelphia, 1891
Levi Zimmerman, Bethel, R.....	Boston, 1877

VETERINARY

From the beginning of the first settlements until the year 1889, the practice of medicine and surgery in connection with domestic animals was carried on without any legal restrictions. Farmers and men of experience, who had become familiar, through long observation, with animal sicknesses and diseases, prescribed and administered the necessary remedies, and in every section of the county there came to be men who were recognized for their skill in curing domestic animals of their various ailments. Then (April 11th) an Act of Assembly was passed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania which related to the practice of veterinary medicine and surgery, and every practitioner of this particular branch of the profession was obliged to be a graduate of a regularly chartered veterinary col-

lege, and to register his qualifications in the prothonotary's office of the county where he practised; but all those who had practised for five years before were allowed to register by filing the necessary affidavits, within six months after the passage of the Act. This legislation was brought about by the efforts of the Pennsylvania State Veterinary Association, which had been organized in 1883. The first president was James W. Sallade, then of Pottsville, but formerly of Berks county. In 1904 and 1905 Dr. Otto G. Noack, of Reading, was the president. Membership in 1909 was two hundred; from Berks county, five.

In 1895, a State Board of Veterinary Examiners was established by an Act passed on May 16th, and all practitioners after that date not theretofore registered were obliged to secure a certificate from this State Board, which had to be filed in the prothonotary's office of the county where the practitioner resided; but this Act was amended in 1905, which authorized the secretary of State to issue a license on the Board's certificate, and this license qualified the practitioner to practise anywhere in the State.

This Board was created for the purpose of looking after the sanitary condition of the live stock in Pennsylvania. In 1907, Dr. Noack was appointed agent for the entire State. Since the creation of this Board over four hundred cows in Berks county have been killed on account of tuberculosis.

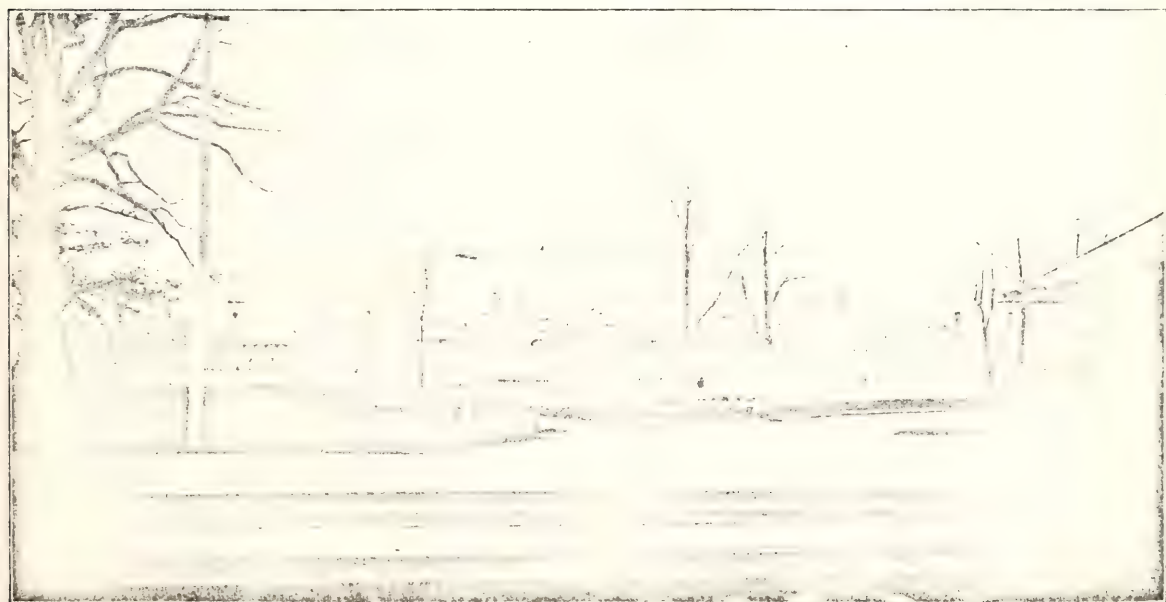
In 1908 there were five veterinary surgeons in Reading and thirty-four in Berks county.

The following statement shows the registered veterinarians of Berks county, with college and year of graduation. Where no college is given, an affidavit was filed without specifying the time of starting practice. [D after name indicates deceased; C, ceased to practice; R, removed out of county.]

Emanuel Althouse, Reading.....	1889
John Albright, Ontelaunee.....	1889
William Appel, Kutztown, R.....	New York, 1889
Joel Biehl, Moselem Springs.....	1889
John K. Biehl, Molltown.....	1889
Harris S. Borneman, Boyertown.....	Ontario, 1882
William B. Blatt, Centreport, D.....	1889
Jonathan Blatt, Centre, D.....	1889
Christian Baum, Hamburg.....	1889
Daniel L. Badgenstos, Strausstown.....	1889
Charles W. Brossman, Womelsdorf.....	Ontario, 1891
Samuel K. Biehl, Reading, C.....	1891
Ulysses G. Biehl, Kutztown.....	American (N. Y.), 1892
A. F. Bayer, Krumsville.....	Chicago, 1904
William U. Custer, Reading, D.....	Pa. Vet. Assn., 1885
Owen E. Collins, Mt. Pleasant, D.....	1889
Charles O. Collins, West Leesport.....	Ontario, 1887
Kilburn H. Cleaver, Reading.....	Ontario, 1879
Benjamin S. Clauser, Upper Tulpehocken.....	1889
George W. DeHart, Stonersville, D.....	1889
James B. Dry, Bowers, D.....	1889
Samuel DeWees, Fleetwood, D.....	1889
Perry K. Dreibelbis, Greenwich.....	Ontario, 1885
John A. Dorward, Reading, C.....	1889
William Deck, Bethel.....	1889
James Dubson, Ruscombmanor.....	1891
George W. Dunlap, Birdsboro, R.....	Ontario, 1893
Martin D. DeTurk, Oley.....	Chicago Vet. College, 1906
Daniel H. DeTurk, Birdsboro.....	Chicago Vet. College, 1903



BERKS COUNTY PRISON IN PENN COMMON



STATE ASYLUM AT WERNERSVILLE

Reuben Ebert, Trexlers.....	1889	Rudolf Mertz, Reading, R.....	Ohio, 1894
Arthur C. Foos, Reading, R.....	Ontario, 1887	James W. McNeil, Reading.....	Boston, 1894
Elias Groff, Jefferson.....	1889	John P. Miller, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1899
William D. Gross, Kutztown.....	Ontario, 1885	Adam F. Noll, Reading.....	1889
Henry L. Gilbert, Colebrookdale.....	1889	Otto G. Noack, Reading.....	Berlin (Germany), 1890
Samuel Goldsmith, Reading, R.....	1889	Walter S. Phillips, Reading.....	Pa. Vet. Assn., 1886
Charles D. Gruber, Bernville.....	Ontario, 1888	Samuel M. Petersheim, Caernarvon.....	1889
Solomon K. Hoffman, Hamburg, C.....	1889	Charles Phillips, Womelsdorf, D.....	1889
Abraham Henrich, Colebrookdale.....	1889	John M. Richards, Reading, D.....	1889
Benjamin Y. Heffner, Richmond.....	1889	John L. Richards, Yellow House (Birdsboro).....	1889
Frederick B. Hassler, Tilden.....	1889	Amos B. Roberts, Blandon, D.....	1889
Walter G. Huyett, Wernersville.....	Chicago, 1899	Jonathan Reber, Hiester's Mill.....	1889
William Jacoby, Lenhartsville.....	1889	Owen B. Roberts, Blandon.....	1889
Jacob Kerchner, Windsor Castle.....	1889	Henry K. Rentschler, Shartlesville.....	1889
Peter I. Kershner, Fleetwood.....	Ontario, 1891	Robert O. Rothermel, Reading.....	Pa. University, 1902
Allen Z. Keeler, Boyertown.....	Ontario, 1891	John H. Shaffer, Mt. Actna.....	1889
Elmer G. Kriebel, Hereford.....	1892	William H. Seitzinger, Wernersville.....	1889
Daniel R. Kohler, Boyertown.....	Ontario, 1892	William Schaeffer, Jefferson.....	1889
John Lutz, Klopp's Store, D.....	1889	George B. Sebastian, Rehrersburg.....	1889
Tobias E. Landis, New Berlinville.....	1889	James D. Schaeffer, Fleetwood.....	1889
Nathaniel F. Lutz, Jefferson.....	1889	Jared Spengler, Penn. D.....	1891
Henry R. Lutz, Jefferson, D.....	1889	Howard L. Stein, Friedensburg, D.....	Ontario, 1893
David B. Levan, Kutztown.....	Chicago Vet. College, 1908	Albert H. Schmoeyer, Boyertown.....	Chicago, 1903
Franklin W. Miller, Gouglersville.....	1889	Nicholas L. Schaeffer, Fleetwood.....	Chicago, 1906
Pierce M. Miller, Gouglersville.....	1889	Elias Troutman, Tulpehocken.....	1889
Jared Miller, Jefferson.....	1889	Amos G. Weidenhammer, Richmond.....	1889
Henry B. Moyer, Hereford.....	1889	Kerby D. Werley, Virginville.....	Chicago, 1908
Emendon Mogel, Bernville.....	1889	Henry S. Yoder, Pleasantville.....	1889
Henry A. Miller, Ruscombmanor.....	1889	Edwin C. Yoder, Kutztown.....	Ontario, 1893
William H. Moyer, Womelsdorf, R.....	Ontario, 1891		

CHAPTER VII—PUBLIC CHARITIES

From 1824 to 1869, all matters relating to the poor inhabitants of Berks county, who needed public assistance, were referred to the poor directors of the county; but by 1869 the institutions of a charitable, reformatory or correctional character in the State had assumed such proportions, and the number of inmates had become so large that the Legislature passed an Act of Assembly, establishing a State Board of Public Charities for the purpose of inquiring into the methods of instruction, government of inmates, conduct of managers, condition of buildings, and all other matters pertaining to their usefulness and good management.

In 1874, the Act of 1869 was amended, authorizing the State Board to appoint three or more persons in any county to act as visitors of the poor-houses and other institutions in such county as an aid to the State Board; and to cause the removal of insane persons in the county almshouses to State Hospitals for proper treatment. The State Board appointed Sydenham E. Ancona, Charles Breneiser and George D. Stitzel as its representatives in Berks county and they have served (excepting Stitzel, who died Dec. 12, 1905, E. R. Gerber being appointed in his place) gratuitously ever since, visiting the several institutions, penal and charitable, and reporting to the State Board.

A large three-story brick building was erected on the poor-house property from 1871 to 1874 for an "Insane Hospital" and the indigent insane people of the county have been cared for there, unless removed to the State Hospital at Harrisburg.

The particulars relating to the poor-house and the prison are mentioned in connection with the county buildings in Chapter IV.

STATE INSTITUTIONS

WERNERSVILLE STATE ASYLUM.—In 1891, an Act was passed for the establishment of an Asylum for the Chronic Insane of Pennsylvania, and in this behalf a commission was appointed by the Governor to select a site and erect the asylum. After examining thirty-one sites, in nineteen counties of the State, they selected a site in Lower Heidelberg township, Berks county, a short distance west of Wernersville, as the one best adapted for the purpose designated. Several tracts of land, embracing 540 acres, were purchased, and a superior, commodious building was erected at a total cost of \$500,000. The institution was dedicated in a formal manner on Sept. 5, 1894, with the Governor presiding over the exercises. Since 1905, two new buildings have been erected: an infirmary building, costing \$30,000, and a building costing \$35,000, the first floor to be used as an additional dining-room, the second floor as a sitting-room for women. Until the end of 1894 the total number admitted was 662; in 1895, 357; in 1896, 114; in 1897, 146; from 1898 to 1900, 167; and from 1901 to 1904, 169.

The average weekly cost of each patient has been less than \$3. On Sept. 30, 1908, the total number of patients was 859; men, 652; women, 207.

From the opening of the Asylum until Sept. 30, 1905, there were 70 inmates from Berks county, 50

which William D. Smith has shown special interest toward its enlargement and success.

WIDOWS' HOME, founded in 1815 at Reading, by the Society of the "Home for Widows and Single Women" which became an incorporated body in 1876. A superior, commodious structure was es-

tablished by the society in 1886, at Sixteenth and Haak streets.

The three hospitals, and Home for Friendless Children, and the Widows' Home have been aided and encouraged by State appropriations.

The foregoing institutions are also mentioned in Chapter X., under the head of Associations.

CHAPTER VIII—WAR PERIODS

FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR

CAUSE OF WAR.—Whilst the Penns were endeavoring to locate a town on the eastern bank of the Schuylkill river at the "Ford" (now Reading), war was being carried on between England and France, and the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle was formed between them in the same year in which the town was laid out (1748). But this treaty of peace did not settle the controversy between them in respect to territory on the American continent. The English Colonies were originally planted along the sea-coast, but they advanced westwardly, and therefore the English claimed the right to extend their settlements across the continent from ocean to ocean. The French, however, had possessed Canada to the north, and Louisiana to the south, and they too claimed the intervening territory which lay along the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Both parties having claimed the same country, they, in order to maintain their respective rights, rushed into a fierce and bloody war for lands which belonged to neither of them, and which after the termination of hostilities passed away from both, and became vested in a new power whose national existence grew out of their contentions. It was accelerated by a grant of six hundred thousand acres of land in that disputed territory by the English to certain persons who associated under the title of the "Ohio Company," and the company having agitated a scheme for its settlement, the French became alarmed. Remonstrances and complaints were fruitless and each party seized and plundered the subjects of the other, ending in hostilities which resulted in the defeat of Braddock in the western section of Pennsylvania in 1755.

The Indians, having united with the French through misrepresentation and finding the frontier open, proceeded eastwardly to repossess the territory which had formerly been theirs and out of which they believed they had been swindled. On their way, they committed depredations and cruelties which resulted in a great loss of life and property; and notwithstanding forts were erected by the provincial government along the Blue Mountain, from the Delaware river to the Susquehanna river to afford protection to the settlers in the vicinity, and garrisoned with twenty-five companies, comprising 1,400 men, they crossed the mountain and

carried their arson and murder into the counties adjoining. Berks county was entered, and numerous persons (including men, women and children) were killed, and many dwellings and barns burned. This naturally spread consternation throughout the county, and the settlers along the mountain abandoned home and property. The enemy soon extended their incursions to a point near Reading, alarming the inhabitants of the town for their safety. In consequence of this, they armed and organized themselves to defend the town, and marched to the mountain to assist in driving the cruel foe out of the county. Many letters have been published which describe the wretched state of the people who lived in the townships to the north and northwest of the town.

The cruelties of the Indians and the unsettled condition of the inhabitants of the upper section of the county continued during 1755, 1756 and 1757. During that time, the English were unsuccessful in their campaigns against the French and Indians, and their affairs here were in an awful situation. Their efforts had produced only expense and disappointment. But in 1758, the tide turned in their favor through the vigorous administration of a new leader, William Pitt. The Indians retreated and victory crowned the British armies everywhere during the succeeding years until 1760, when the French were dispossessed of all territories in dispute and forced to surrender Canada. Peace was declared in 1763.

The town of Reading had just been fairly started when this terrible shock fell upon the inhabitants. Though discouraged they did not abandon their new settlement and its bright prospects, as the settlers were forced to do along the mountain. It is probable that the unsettled condition of affairs there during that period contributed much toward the rapid growth of the town.

TROOPS IN COUNTY.—The provincial military officers of the county in 1754 were: Lieutenant-Colonel, Conrad Weiser; Captains, Christian Busse (at Fort Henry), Frederick Smith, Jacob Orndt, and Jacob Morgan (at Fort Lebanon); Lieutenant, Philip Weiser; Ensigns, —Harry (at Fort Lebanon) and Edward Biddle; Sergeant, Peter Smith; Corporal, — Schaeffer.

Weiser was lieutenant-colonel of the 2d Battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment, which consisted of nine companies. This was a portion of the troops ordered by the Governor to be raised for the purpose of repelling the invasion. The total force was to comprise twenty-five companies, numbering 1,400 men. Of the nine companies under Weiser, one and one-half companies were at Fort Henry, and one company was at Fort Williams.

In March, 1756, an independent company of grenadiers, in General Shirley's regiment, was stationed at Reading on duty. Upon receiving orders to march to New York, 25 men, under the command of a lieutenant, were ordered to Reading, to remain on guard until further orders. In June, the town was occupied by a company of men, under the command of Conrad Weiser. It was composed of two sergeants and 28 privates. The ammunition at Reading then consisted of 25 good muskets, 25 muskets out of repair, 11 broken muskets, 9 cart-ridge-boxes, 240 pounds of powder, 600 pounds of lead. In August, 1757, 50 men from Cumru and other townships near Reading set out in expectation of bringing in some Indian scalps.

In February, 1758, Fort Williams was garrisoned by Captain Morgan and 53 men; and Fort Henry by Captain Busse with 89 men, and Captain Weiser with 105 men; and Fort Augusta with eight companies, numbering 362 men. The whole number of men then receiving pay in the province was 1,274.

In June, 1758, Berks county had in the service 56 good and strong wagons, each wagon furnished with four horses and an expert driver. These wagons were formed in two divisions, the first division containing 26 wagons, and the second 30. A deputy wagon-master was over each division. Their names were John Lesher and Jacob Weaver, able to speak the English and German languages, and they understood smith and wheelwright work.

In the limits of Berks county, in 1758, there were at Fort Henry two companies, comprising 105 men; at Fort William (Forks of Schuylkill), one company of 53 men; and at Fort Augusta, eight companies with 362 men.

In 1761, the inhabitants of Tulpehocken and Heidelberg townships raised 159 men as rangers to guard the county lines of Berks and Lancaster counties.

COLONIAL FORTS.—When the officials of the provincial government learned that the Indians and French had united for the purpose of cooperating against the English on this continent, they decided to afford protection to the settlements near the frontiers by the erection of forts; and the number of settlers who had gone beyond the Blue Mountain till this time having been small, they determined to locate these forts along this natural boundary line from the Delaware on the east to the Susquehanna on the west. The object of these forts was simply for refuge—a retreat for the in-

habitants when danger was imminent. They were erected hastily to serve a temporary purpose. Unfortunately for the people, they were too few in number and too far apart to serve the purpose for which they were intended, especially to those who were somewhat removed. The Indians did not march over the mountain in large numbers together, and they did attack the forts. They came quietly, in small parties, and without warning they fell upon the unprotected families like a thunderbolt; and after murdering men, women and children indiscriminately and setting fire to dwellings and barns, they departed like a flash. Their success in these wicked incursions was truly wonderful.

In 1758, the location of the forts and distances apart were reported as follows:

	Miles
From Wind Gap to Doll's Blockhouse.....	20
Thence to Fort Lehigh	8
Thence to Fort Allen	10
Thence to Blockhouse	20
Thence to Fort Everit	10
Thence to Fort Williams	12
Thence to Fort Henry	22
Thence to Fort Swatara	14
Thence to Fort Hunter, on Susquehanna	24
Total distance	140

FORTS IN COUNTY.—The following forts were erected in the territory which was embraced in Berks county, the first five having been along the Blue Mountain, and the last at Shamokin (now Sunbury): Fort Henry, Fort Dietrich Snyder, Fort Northkill, Fort Lebanon, Fort Franklin and Fort Augusta.

A log house was built within the stockades, and it was often crowded uncomfortably by the neighboring inhabitants in times of danger. The stockades were logs, about eighteen feet long, cut in the woods where the forts were built, and planted in the ground as closely as possible. They were intended to protect the house and prevent the Indians from shooting its occupants when they stepped outside.

Fort Henry was situated in Bethel township, in what was, and still is, commonly known as "The Hollow," about three miles north of the present village of Millersburg, fifty yards to the east of the "Old Shamokin Road," which leads over the mountain. The spot was elevated, to enable the guard to look out some distance in every direction. There is no particular mention of this fort in the Colonial records, and this omission induces the belief that it was a fort erected by the people of that vicinity for their protection. It was sometimes called "Dietrich Six's," doubtless because it stood on the land of Dietrich Six. The records mention several times that the people fled to Dietrich Six's, but the place was not indicated as a military post. The field where it was situated has been under cultivation for many years, and not

a single mark remains to indicate where it stood. It was erected some time before June, 1754. In the beginning of June, 1757, the Governor visited Fort Henry, having been escorted thither by sixty substantial freeholders of the county on horseback, completely armed. They presented a very dutiful address to his honor, in which they expressed the warmest loyalty to the King and the greatest zeal and alacrity to serve His Majesty in defense of their country.

Fort Dietrich Snyder.—A fort was situated on the top of the mountain, north of Fort Northkill. It occupied one of the most prominent spots, and being within two miles of Fort Northkill, it is supposed that it was designed for an observatory or watch-house.

Fort Northkill was in Upper Tulpehocken township, near the Northkill (a branch of the Tulpehocken creek) about two miles east of Strausstown and a mile south from the base of the Blue Mountain. It was built in the early part of 1754. As to the dimensions of the fort Commissary Young says, June 20, 1756: "The fort is about nine miles to the westward of the Schuylkill, and stands in a very thick wood, on a small rising ground, half a mile from the middle of Northkill creek. It is intended for a square about thirty-two feet each way; at each corner is a half-bastion of very little service to flank the curtains. The stockades were ill fixed in the ground, and open in many places. Within is a very bad log-house for the people: it has no chimney and can afford but little shelter in bad weather."

There was an attack in the neighborhood of this fort on Oct. 1, 1757. Application was made to Conrad Weiser (then at Reading) for immediate assistance, and Captain Oswald (who commanded the guards about Reading) sent two lieutenants with forty men to the relief.

Fort Lebanon was situated about six miles beyond the Blue Mountain, a short distance east of the Schuylkill river. It was erected in the beginning of 1754. In 1758, it was known as "Fort Williams," and called sometimes "Fort Schuylkill." It is frequently mentioned in the Pennsylvania Archives. Two years after its erection, it was described as follows: "Fort Lebanon, about twenty-four miles from Gnadenhutten, in the line to Shamokin.—Fort, 100 feet square. Stockades, 14 feet high. House within, built 30 by 20, with a large store-room. A spring within, and a magazine, 12 feet square. On a barren, not much timber on it; 100 families protected by it within the new purchase. No township. Built in three weeks. Something considered given by the neighbors towards it."

Fort Franklin.—The fifth fort on the frontier of the county was several miles above the Blue Mountain, on Lizard creek. It was built about two years later than the other forts. It was sometimes called Fort Allemaengel ("all wants").

Fort Augusta.—The first allusion to this fort is in a letter by Governor Morris, on Feb. 1, 1756, in which he states that he proposed to build a fort at Shamokin, at the forks of the Susquehanna, as soon as the season would admit a passage of that river. And in a letter dated July 20th following, he stated that a fort was then building at Shamokin (where a camp was stationed for some time) by Colonel Clapham, who had five hundred men with him. Shortly afterward (Aug. 14) the Colonel addressed a letter to the Governor dated at "Fort Augusta," in reference to a necessary supply of military stores. This fort was therefore built during July and August, 1756. No dimensions are given. But it was large and commodious, affording room for many men and a large quantity of military stores. Frequent reports of the supplies on hand and of the forces stationed there appear in the Records and Archives; and cruelties by the Indians were committed in the vicinity.

PREMIUM FOR SCALES.—In pursuance of a resolution for carrying on active measures against the Indians, the Board of Commissioners decided on April 9, 1756, to recommend to the Governor that bounties, or premiums, be paid for prisoners and scalps:

For every male Indian prisoner above ten years old, that shall be delivered at any of the government forts or towns.....	\$150
For every female Indian prisoner or male prisoner, of ten years old and under, delivered as above.....	130
For the scalp of every male Indian above ten years old	130
For the scalp of every Indian woman.....	50

PEACE DECLARED.—After the French had receded into Canada before the advancing army of English soldiers, the Indians naturally followed their allies. Hence the cruelties here ceased after 1758; and when Canada was surrendered in 1760, the peace and safety of our community were assured. The declaration of peace was delayed for three years, and when it was published in 1763, only a few Indians remained in the eastern section of Pennsylvania. A small settlement of them (who were friendly to the government and the inhabitants) remained at Shamokin; and some families were scattered in different parts of the county, where they remained for many years afterward.

Before the war, considerable trade had been carried on successfully between the settlers and the Indians, continuing without interruption from the time of the first settlements until 1744, and even a decade afterward. The relations had become so pleasant and firm that certain Indians remained in the county unmolested during the war, and carried on their peaceful vocations, such as basket-making, bead-work, etc., and after the war, traveling parties of them frequently visited the county and sold articles of their handiwork.

MURDERED AND CAPTURED.—During this war, the Indians killed about one hundred and fifty, and captured thirty inhabitants of the county. Several of

those who were taken captive returned after the war. Many persons were wounded and some of them died from their wounds. But, during these eight years, only four of the Indians were killed in the county, so far as ascertained.

MURDERED

June, 1754—Peter Geisinger, Tulpehocken.
 June, 1754—Fred. Myers and wife, Tulpehocken.
 June, 1754—Young girl, Tulpehocken.
 June, 1754—Hostetter family, Bern.
 June, 1754—Sebastian Brosius, Bethel.
 October, 1755—Henry Hartman, Bethel.
 October, 1755—Two men (unknown), Bethel.
 October, 1755—Odwaller and another unknown, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Thirteen persons, unknown, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Child eight years old, daughter of a man named Cola, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Cola's wife and two children older, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Philip —, a shoemaker, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Casper Spring, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Beslinger, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Child of Jacob Wolf, Bethel.
 November, 1755—John Leinberger, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Rudolph Candel, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Sebastian Brosius, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Six men killed, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Unknown man, a shoemaker at Brown's house, Bethel.
 November, 1755—A child scalped and died, Bethel.
 November, 1755—A woman and male child, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Fifteen persons (excluding five preceding), Bethel.
 November, 1755—Christopher Ury, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Youngman, Bethel.
 November, 1755—Wife of — Kobel, Bethel.
 February, 1756—Two children of Frederick Reichelderfer, Albany.
 February, 1756—One man, two women and six children, Albany.
 February, 1756—George Zeisloff and wife, two boys and a girl, Albany.
 February, 1756—Wife of Balser Neyfong, Albany.
 March, 1756—Peter Kluck and family, Albany.
 March, 1756—A woman at Linderman's house, Albany.
 March, 1756—William Yeth, Hereford.
 March, 1756—Wife of John Krausher, Hereford.
 October, 1756—Two married women and two boys, Bethel.
 November, 1756—Wife, daughter and son-in-law of Philip Culmore, Albany.
 November, 1756—Martin Fell, Albany.
 November, 1756—Two old men, Bethel.
 November, 1756—Stonebrook, Albany.
 June, 1757—Man unknown, near Fort Henry, Bethel.
 June, 1757—Two persons near Fort Northkill, Tulpehocken.
 June, 1757—Adam Trump, Albany.
 June, 1757—Peter Gersinger, Bethel.
 July, 1757—Three men and four children, Bethel.

¹ Possibly these two and the two immediately before are the same.
² Near by an Indian of Delaware tribe—was found dead and scalped—scalped by Frederick Weiser. Another was shot and scalped several weeks afterward.
³ Supposed to have been soldiers.
⁴ Two others also scalped.
⁵ Under this woman, her babe only fourteen days old was found. It was alive, wrapped up in a little cushion.
⁶ Four of their children were scalped at the same time. They had eight children with them. Two probably died. The father was killed.
⁷ All killed at house of Jacob Gerhart, situated in the upper section of the township, commonly known as the "Lick" corner. Eight of them were burned.
⁸ One of them reported as likely to die from scalping.
⁹ Ten women and children were rescued at this place from the cellar of a burning building.
¹⁰ Found with a knife and a spear (fixed to a pole four feet long) in his body.
¹¹ All murdered and scalped in one house.

July, 1757—Two children near Bickel's.
 July, 1757—Martin Jaeger and wife,¹² Greenwich.
 July, 1757—Two children of John Krausher, Greenwich.
 July, 1757—One child of A. Sechler, Greenwich.
 July, 1757—One child of Philip Eshton, Greenwich.
 July, 1757—Ten people.¹³
 September, 1757—A man shot in bed whilst sick.
 September, 1757—Two families.¹⁴
 April, 1758—Jacob Lebenguth and Margaret his wife, Tulpehocken.
 April, 1758—Wife and two children of Nicholas Geiger, Tulpehocken.
 April, 1758—Wife of Michael Ditzeler, Tulpehocken.
 June, 1758—Wife of John Frantz, Tulpehocken.
 June, 1758—Son of John Snabele, Tulpehocken.
 October, 1758—A man, Bethel.
 September, 1763—John Fincher, wife and two sons, Albany.
 September, 1763—Four children at house of Nicholas Miller,¹⁵ Albany.
 September, 1763—Two children of Frantz Hubler, Bern.
 November, 1763—Three men near forks of Schuylkill.¹⁶

TAKEN PRISONERS

June, 1754—Daughter of Balser Schmidt (fifteen years old), Tulpehocken.
 June, 1754—Three children of Frederick Myers (two boys, 10 and 6 years old, and a girl 8 years old), Tulpehocken.
 June, 1754—Son of — Reichard (eight years old), Tulpehocken.
 February, 1756—Son of Balser Neyfong, Albany.
 March, 1756—Son of William Yeth, Hereford.
 November, 1756—Girl named Stonebrook, Albany.
 June, 1757—Son of Adam Trump, Albany.
 June, 1757—Young woman from near Fort Henry, Bethel.
 July, 1757—Three children from near Bickel's.
 July, 1757—Two children at same time.
 September, 1757—Five children.
 June, 1758—Three children of John Frantz, Tulpehocken.
 September, 1763—Wife and three children of Frantz Hubler, Bern.

MISSING

November, 1756—Wife and child of Martin Fell, Albany.
 November, 1756—A boy seven years old, Albany.
 October, 1758—Three men missing, Bethel.
 September, 1763—Daughter of John Fincher, Albany.
 September, 1763—Wife of Nicholas Miller, Albany.

REVOLUTION, 1775-83

CAUSE.—The Parliament of Great Britain passed an Act on March 22, 1765, which required all instruments of writing, such as deeds, bonds and promissory notes, to be written on parchment or paper stamped with a specific duty, otherwise they were to have no legal effect; but this measure met with such general opposition in Great Britain and throughout the American Colonies, and was found to be so unpopular, that the Act was repealed in

¹² John Krausher's wife and child, Abraham Sechler's wife, and a child of Adam Clauss were scalped at the same time and badly wounded.
¹³ Alluded to in Weiser's letter. Probably he referred to party killed in Greenwich.
¹⁴ No number mentioned.
¹⁵ Two of Miller's children were prisoners, but were rescued. When rescued they were tied together, in which manner they had been driven along.
¹⁶ These are supposed to have been the last persons killed by the Indians at this time. But during the Revolution war, in August, 1780, John Nexman and his two young children were cruelly murdered by the Indians thirty-three miles from Reading on road to Shamokin; and at the same time a little girl was carried off.

the following year. The cheapest stamp was of the value of one shilling. The stamps on documents increased in value according to their importance. All the colonists manifested unbounded joy over the repeal of this odious law.

This opposition, however, led Parliament to pass a declaratory Act (which accompanied the repealing Act) asserting their power over the Colonies in all cases whatsoever. And in 1767, an Act was passed imposing certain duties on tea, glass, paper, and painters' colors that were imported into the Colonies. There was no representation in Parliament from the several Colonies; and they, regarding taxation of this kind as unjust and tyrannical, held public meetings, formed associations to discourage, and even to prevent, the importation of British goods, and passed appropriate resolutions; which they forwarded to the King. His ministers, believing that a reduction of the tax would restore tranquility, ordered this law also to be repealed, saving only a tax of three pence per pound on tea; and in 1770 an Act was passed accordingly. But even this was not satisfactory to them, and their recommendations to one another not to receive any tea were strictly carried out.

In the meantime, the East India Company had accumulated seventeen million pounds of this article on hand, and fearing great losses, they led Parliament to authorize the exportation of tea to any part of the world free of duty. With such encouragement, the company in 1774 loaded several ships with tea and sent them to the American Colonies; but the colonists were firm in their resolution and determined to obstruct the sale of it and to refuse to pay even so slight a tax as three pence per pound. When the ships arrived near Philadelphia and New York, the captains were warned not to land, and, fearing this warning, they returned to England. The tea sent to Charleston was landed, but it could not be sold, and after having been stored for a while in damp cellars it became a total loss to the company. And at Boston, while efforts were being made to land the tea, certain men in the disguise of Indians stole their way upon the vessels, broke open 342 chests of tea and threw the contents overboard.

When Parliament heard of these proceedings, an Act was passed, called the "Boston Port Bill," directing the port of Boston to be closed and the custom house to be removed to Salem; and other humiliating Acts were also passed which were offensive to the people of Boston. Information about these Acts reached Boston on May 10th, and on the 13th, at a town meeting, the inhabitants resolved:

That, if the other Colonies would unite with them to stop all importations from Great Britain and the West Indies until those Acts should be repealed, it would prove the salvation of North America and her liberties; but if they should continue their exports and imports, there was reason to fear that fraud, power and the most odious oppression would triumph over justice, right, social happiness and freedom.

Copies of this resolution were transmitted to all the other Colonies. It awakened not only a feeling of sympathy but a strong spirit of co-operation, and led them to concur in the propriety of calling a Provincial Congress. Public meetings were held at different places, such as county towns, and, besides discussing topics so important to liberty and the general welfare, committees of correspondence were appointed to communicate the actions of the several meetings to one another throughout the Colonies. In this way, it was discovered that the same feeling prevailed everywhere, and naturally there came to be united efforts toward accomplishing a common result for the benefit of all.

About this time the terms "Whigs" and "Tories" were introduced to designate either those who were arrayed on the side of the Colonies in sympathy with Boston, or those who were in sympathy with the policy of the British government.

MEETING AT READING.—When the news reached Reading, in Berks county, the citizens manifested great excitement, and meetings were held at which the action of the British government was condemned. These meetings were called by notices headed "Boston Port Bill," and posted throughout the town.

At one of these meetings (which comprised a respectable body of inhabitants of the county) held in the Court-House at Reading, on July 2, 1774, Edward Biddle, Esq., in the chair, the following resolutions were adopted:

This assembly, taking into their very serious consideration the present critical situation of American affairs, do unanimously resolve as follows, viz.:

1. That the inhabitants of this county do owe, and will pay due allegiance to our rightful Sovereign, King George the Third.
2. That the powers claimed, and now attempted to be put into execution by the British Parliament, are fundamentally wrong, and cannot be admitted without the utter destruction of the liberties of America.
3. That the Boston Port Bill is unjust and tyrannical in the extreme. And that the measures pursued against Boston are intended to operate equally against the rights and liberties of the other colonies.
4. That this assembly doth concur in opinion with their respective brethren of Philadelphia, that there is an absolute necessity for an immediate congress of the deputies of the several advices, in order to deliberate upon and pursue such measures as may radically heal our present unhappy disturbances, and settle with precision the rights and liberties of America.
5. That the inhabitants of this county, confiding in the prudence and ability of the deputies intended to be chosen for the general congress, will cheerfully submit to any measures which may be found by the said congress best adapted for the restoration of harmony between the mother-country and the colonies, and for the security and firm establishment of the rights of America.
6. That, as the people of Boston are now suffering in the grand and common cause of American liberty,

Resolved, That it is the duty of all the inhabitants to contribute to the support of the said sufferers, and that the committee hereafter named do open subscriptions for their relief. And further, that the said committee do lay out the amount of such subscriptions in purchasing flour and other provisions, to be sent by them to our said suffering brethren.

7. That Edward Biddle, James Read, Daniel Brodhead, Henry Christ, Esqs., Christopher Schultz, Thomas Dundas and Jonathan Potts, gentlemen, be, and they are hereby appointed a committee to meet and correspond with the committees from the other counties of the Province.

The committee raised money and forwarded flour and provisions to the suffering brethren at Boston soon after the meeting. Reading was a prominent center of trade in 1774, and the country round about possessed an abundance of grain and provisions. There were numerous gristmills within a radius of ten miles, and the collection of many barrels of flour was a comparatively easy matter for such a worthy cause, especially under the appeal of such influential men as composed the committee. Biddle and Read were attorneys; Christ an inn-keeper; Potts a physician; Dundas a merchant; Brodhead a large miller of Heidelberg; and Schultz a prosperous farmer of Hereford.

From this meeting to the close of the Revolution, the people of Reading and of the county participated actively in all the affairs of the province. They were represented by delegates at the several conferences; and they contributed their quota of men, money and supplies in the successful prosecution of the war.

LEXINGTON AWAKENS COUNTY.—The battle of Lexington was fought on April 19, 1775, and when the news of the battle reached Reading, about a week afterward, a company of men was formed, who wore crape for a cockade as a token of sorrow for the slaughter of their brethren; and each township in Berks county resolved to raise and discipline a company of soldiers. And the following extract of a letter from Reading, dated April 26, 1775, shows forcibly the feeling that prevailed:

We have raised in this town two companies of foot under proper officers; and such is the spirit of the people of this free county, that in three weeks time there is not a township in it that will not have a company raised and disciplined, ready to assert at the risk of their lives the freedom of America.

The companies mentioned were commanded by Capt. George Nagel and Capt. John Spohn.

FIRST OFFICERS FROM COUNTY.—The first meeting of the Committee of Safety at Philadelphia was on Jan. 2, 1776, which Edward Biddle attended. Congress had recommended that Pennsylvania furnish four battalions of troops; and at this meeting the Committee were to agree upon the four colonels who were to be placed in command. On the 4th of January, they selected field officers, George Nagel, of Reading, being one of them. Then they also selected thirty-one captains for the four battalions, among those chosen being John Spohn, Peter Scull and Peter Decker, all of Reading, and on Jan. 6th, they selected thirty-two lieutenants, among them Daniel Brodhead of Reading.

GERMANS TO RESCUE.—By looking over the names of the numerous men in Berks county who participated in the movement for independence, it will be found that they are almost entirely German.

The population of the county was largely German and of German descent, and this preponderance of names over those of all other nationalities was to be expected. The proportion was fully nine-tenths. They used the German language in their daily affairs, excepting the transfer of title to real estate, which was required to be in the English language by a provincial law. The location of the English people in 1775 was mostly at Reading, and in Robeson, Caernarvon, Union, Exeter, Oley, Maiden-creek and Richmond townships, or eight districts out of twenty-nine; but the major part of the people in these districts also were German, excepting the southern section of the county.

It can be stated that Berks county was then distinctively the most German county of the eleven counties in the province. It was natural for the electors of the county to show a positive sympathy for this movement, because it was in accordance with their notions of political freedom. They had a firm belief in local government and desired to carry it on successfully without unnecessary restrictions or burdens. Taxation without representation was to them an unreasonable and unjust doctrine, and they were not disposed to tolerate its continued enforcement.

The system of militia, which had been provided by the Assembly, was appreciated by them, and they co-operated sincerely in its establishment throughout the county. They effected an organization and responded to the call for troops in a willing and prompt manner. The militia returns of the county for 1775 show the organization of seven battalions; and by July there were at least forty companies ready to answer the call for military duty in actual warfare. Their zeal will be more fully appreciated when we understand that there was not a single post-office in the county, and that the only means of dispatching communications was by express riders.

ASSOCIATORS.—At the inception of the Revolution, there were eleven counties in the province of Pennsylvania:

Philadelphia	York	Bedford
Bucks	Cumberland	Northumberland
Chester	Berks	Westmoreland
Lancaster	Northampton	

On June 30, 1775, the General Assembly approved of "the Association entered into by the good people of this Colony for the defense of their lives, liberties and properties"; decided to pay the necessary expenses of the officers and soldiers while in active service, repelling any hostile invasion of British or other troops; and recommended the county commissioners of the several counties to "immediately provide a proper number of good, new firelocks with bayonets fitted to them, cartridge boxes with twenty-three rounds of cartridges in every box, and knapsacks." The allotted number for Berks county was four hundred.

Edward Biddle and Henry Christ were then the representatives from Berks county; and Biddle was

selected by the Assembly as one of the Committee of Safety "for calling forth such and so many of the Associators into actual service when necessity requires." The committee consisted of twenty-five members.

The preamble to the Articles of Association read as follows:

We, the officers and soldiers, engaged in the present association for the defense of American liberty, being fully sensible that the strength and security of any body of men acting together consists in just regularity, due subordination, and exact obedience to command, without which no individual can have that confidence in the support of those about him, that is so necessary to give firmness and resolution to the whole, do voluntarily and freely, after consideration of the following articles, adopt the same as the rules by which we agree and resolve to be governed in all our military concerns and operations, until the same or any of them shall be changed or dissolved by the Assembly or Provincial Convention, or in their recess, by the Committee of Safety, or a happy reconciliation shall take place between Great Britain and the Colonies.

There were thirty-two articles which provided for the regulation of military affairs, and these articles the Associators were expected to sign. The Committee of Safety in Berks county recommended the adoption of the Articles.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMPANIES.—On July 28, 1775, the Assembly approved of the resolution of Congress, passed July 18th, which recommended:

That all able-bodied men between sixteen and sixty years of age in each colony immediately form themselves into regular companies to consist of one captain, two lieutenants, one ensign, four sergeants, four corporals, a clerk, drummer and fifer, and sixty-eight privates.

That the officers of each company be chosen by the respective companies.

That the companies be formed into Battalions, officered with a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, two Majors, and an Adjutant or Quartermaster.

That the officers above captain be appointed by the Assembly or by the Committee of Safety.

And that each soldier be furnished with a good musket that will carry an ounce ball, with a bayonet, steel ramrod, worm priming wire with brush fitted thereto, a cutting sword or tomahawk, a cartridge box that will contain twenty-three rounds of cartridges, 12 flints, and a knapsack.

The musket barrels were three feet eight inches long, and the bayonets sixteen inches long; the bore of the barrels of sufficient size to carry seventeen balls to the pound.

COUNTY COLONELS.—Delegates from the eleven counties, numbering altogether fifty-three, assembled at Philadelphia on Aug. 19, 1775, for the purpose of adopting Articles of Association. They were colonels of the Associated Battalions, and the representatives from Berks county were:

Edward Biddle Daniel Brodhead Christian Lower
Mark Bird Balser Geehr

DECLARATION READ IN COUNTY.—In pursuance of a resolution of Congress, the State Board of Safety addressed a letter to the Committee of Berks County on July 6, 1776, enclosing a copy of the Declaration

of Independence, and directing it to be read on Monday, July 8th, at 12 o'clock noon, at the place where the election of delegates was to be held. This was done by Henry Vanderslice, the sheriff of the county, on that day at the Court-House, on Penn Square, the bell having been rung earnestly beforehand, as elsewhere, to call the people together so that they should learn the significance of that important public document.

POPULATION AND DISTRICTS.—In 1776, the territory of Berks county included not only that part which lies within the present boundary lines to the south of the Blue Mountain, but also nearly the entire area of Schuylkill county to the north, the excepted portion being about one-sixth part at the eastern end. But that section beyond the mountain was sparsely settled, the resident taxables numbering about one hundred and fifty, and the population about six hundred. The total population (as near as it can be estimated) was about twenty thousand; and the taxables numbered about four thousand, the same number as those subject to military duty between the ages of eighteen and fifty-three years. The estimated population of Pennsylvania then was three hundred thousand white people, and two thousand black.

The townships or districts established in the county numbered twenty-nine. They were distributed as follows:

EAST OF THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER

Manatawny Section

Alsace	Douglass	Reading
Amity	Exeter	Rockland
Colebrookdale	Hereford	Ruscombmanor
District	Olcy	

Ontelaunee Section

Albany	Maiden-creek	Richmond
Greenwich	Maxatawny	Windsor
Longswamp		

WEST OF THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER

Schuylkill Section

Brecknock	Cumru	Union
Caernarvon	Robeson	

Tulpehocken Section

Bern	Heidelberg	Tulpehocken
Bethel		

BEYOND THE BLUE MOUNTAIN

Brunswick and Pine-Crove.

COMPANIES IN SERVICE

The following companies from Berks county were in the Revolution from its inception in 1775 to its successful termination in 1783, so far as the compiler has been able to ascertain them. This table is as complete as it can be made at this time and presents sufficient evidence to show the patriotic spirit of the people and the response they made to the government in its numerous calls for troops. The names of the colonels and captains only can be given.

STATEMENT OF TROOPS

During the year 1773

Company of Capt. George Nagel (Reading), 95 men, at Cambridge, Mass., from July, 1773, to March 1776. He subsequently became a Colonel.

During the year 1776

Company of Capt. Jonathan Jones (Caernarvon), 83 men; at Montreal, Quebec, Ticonderoga, and Trenton from January, 1776, to January, 1777.

Battalion of Col. Henry Haller (Reading), which comprised eight companies commanded by the following captains:

John Spohn (Reading), 78 men
 Peter Decker (Reading), 86 men
 Henry Christ (Reading), 87 men
 Joseph Hiester (Reading)
 Jacob Graul (Reading)
 Jacob Maurer (Maiden-creek)
 John Ludwig (Heidelberg)
 George Douglass (Amity)

The total number of men was estimated at 666. They were in active service at New York and Long Island from June, 1776, to January, 1777. Lieut.-Col. Nicholas Lotz was in command of the men, and he was among the prisoners taken at the Battle of Long Island.

Also, in that vicinity during August and September, 1776, four companies, estimated at 300 men, commanded by the following captains:

John Old (District)
 George Will (Reading), 72 men
 Daniel Deturck (Alsace), 72 men
 George May (Windsor)

Also, in that vicinity (South Amboy) during the same time, four companies of the battalion of Col. John Patton (Heidelberg), estimated at 300 men, commanded by the following captains:

John Leshar (Tulpehocken)
 Michael Wolf (Bethel)
 George Miller (Tulpehocken)
 Michael Furrer (Tulpehocken)

Also, in that vicinity during the same time, the 4th Battalion of Berks County Militia under the command of Col. Balser Gehr (Bern). It arrived at Bethlehem on the way on Sept. 1st. The full battalion of six companies is supposed to have gone to the field, but the names of the captains and the number of men have not been as yet ascertained; men estimated at 300.

Also, in that vicinity during the same time, the battalion of Col. Mark Bird (Union), which he equipped at his own expense. The names of the captains have not been ascertained but the number of men was said to have been about 300.

The company of Capt. Benjamin Weiser (Heidelberg), 53 men, was at Trenton in December, 1776, and at Princeton in January, 1777.

The quota of 500 men from Berks county, made up from the battalions of Col. Henry Haller and Col. Daniel Hunter, were also in the vicinity of Trenton in December, 1776, and at Newtown, Bucks county, in January, 1777. Only five of the captains have been ascertained:

In the Haller battalion, three captains—
 George Will (Reading), 40 men
 John Diehl (Reading), 29 men
 Nicholas Scheffer (Tulpehocken), 32 men
 And in the Hunter battalion, two captains—
 Conrad Eckert (Heidelberg)
 Fisher

In February, a detachment of the company of Capt. Peter Nagel, 17 men, was detailed on duty to guard prisoners at Reading.

In September, a detachment of the company of Capt. Conrad Geist, 39 men, was detailed on duty also to guard prisoners at Reading.

Besides the captains mentioned, there is positive evidence that four additional captains were in the service in the summer: Jacob Moser (Reading), John Soder (Bern), Stephen Crumrine (Colebrookdale), and Moyer, they having been paid by the Executive Council. Number of men estimated at 300.

During the year 1777

The companies commanded by the following captains were enlisted in the Continental Line—men estimated at 300:

3d Reg't, Peter Scull (Reading)
 4th " John Mears (Reading)
 6th " Jacob Moser (Reading), 67 men
 6th " Jacob Bower (Reading)
 11th " Samuel Dewees (Heidelberg)
 12th " Peter Withington (Reading)

The battalion of Col. Daniel Hunter (Oley) was mustered into service on Aug. 7, 1777, with 365 men, and participated under General Washington in the campaigns round about Philadelphia from August to December, during which the battles of Brandywine and Germantown were fought. It comprised six companies, which were commanded by the following captains:

Henry Knause (Colebrookdale)
 Charles Crouse (Longswamp)
 Jacob Whetstone (Brunswick)
 Conrad Geist (Reading)
 John McMurray (Robeson)
 John Leshar (Oley)

The battalion of Col. Daniel Udree (Oley) was mustered in at the same time with 301 men, and was engaged in the same service. It comprised six companies with the following captains:

Stephen Crumrine (Colebrookdale)
 Peter Smith (Reading)
 Conrad Minich (Brunswick)
 John Reitmyer (Reading)
 John Essington (Union)
 George Battorf (Bethel)

The battalion of Col. Michael Lindenmuth (Bern) was mustered in on Sept. 27, 1777, with 286 men, and was engaged in service in the Schuylkill Valley from that time until Washington went into winter quarters at Valley Forge on Dec. 18th, when it is supposed the men returned to the county. It comprised six companies with the following captains:

Sebastian Lentz (Rockland)
 Jacob Rodarmel (Richmond)
 Francis Umbenhauer (Bern)
 Daniel Deturck (Alsace)
 John Wagner (Bern)
 Daniel Womelsdorf (Heidelberg)

The battalion of Col. Joseph Hiester (Reading) was mustered in at the same time with 263 men, and was engaged in the same service as the Lindenmuth battalion. It comprised six companies with the following captains:

Jacob Roth (Amity)
 Jacob Dreibelbis (Greenwich)
 Sebastian Enrich (Bethel)
 Peter Nagel (Reading)
 John Graul (Reading)
 Conrad Weiser (Heidelberg)

The battalion of Col. Henry Spyker (Tulpehocken) was mustered in on Nov. 9, 1777, and was engaged in the service for sixty days in the Schuylkill Valley, between Valley Forge and Germantown. It comprised seven companies and 367 men, with the following captains:

Michael Voyge (Richmond)
 Jacob Shadel (Bern)

George Riehm (Cumru)
 Jacob Rhoads (Amity)
 Michael Bretz (Pine Grove)
 Conrad Eckert (Heidelberg)
 Henry Weaver (Tulpehocken)

The battalion of Col. Jacob Weaver (Amity) was mustered in on Dec. 13, 1777, and was also engaged in the service for sixty days in the same vicinity as the Spyker battalion. It comprised eight companies and 361 men, with the following captains:

Daniel Reiff (Oley)
 Henry Egner (Longswamp)
 Ferdinand Ritter (Albany)
 Sebastian Miller (Cumru)
 Philip Krick (Cumru)
 David Morgan (Caernarvon)
 Jacob Kreamer (Bethel)
 Philip Filbert (Heidelberg)

The company of Capt. Charles Crouse (Longswamp), with 40 men, was on guard duty at the Windsor powder magazine for some time before Jan. 3, 1778.

The company of Capt. Jacob Hill (Windsor), with 41 men, was mustered into service on Oct. 25, 1777, and was also stationed at the same powder magazine for some time, doing guard duty.

And two companies, each comprising 40 men, were stationed at Reading in September, for the purpose of guarding the military stores—the names of the commanding officers not having been ascertained.

During the year 1778

In January, General Washington recommended that Capt. Edward Scull (Reading) should recruit 150 men in Berks county for the Battalion of the State in the Continental Army, which was done.

A company, commanded by Lieut. Joseph Talbot (Caernarvon), with 54 men, was mustered into service on Jan. 5th, and detailed for guard duty at Reading.

In April, 200 men were ordered on guard duty at Reading, and 10 men on guard duty at Boone's Mill (supposed to have been in Exeter).

During the middle of this year, 16 men were enlisted at Reading to make up the company of Capt. Bartholomew Von Heer, for the purpose of performing provost duty. They were mounted and accoutered as Light Dragoons, to apprehend deserters, rioters and stragglers.

Col. Jacob Morgan reported in August that he had forwarded 180 men to Sunbury, and 123 men to Easton to render frontier service against the Indians.

Two battalions, the quota ordered from Berks county, were sent to Philadelphia in October, to serve under General Armstrong, in anticipation of an invasion by the British, the number of men being estimated at 500.

During the year 1779

No evidence of the enlistment of men from Berks county during this year has been discovered, nor any orders from the Executive Council to the lieutenant of the county for men.

During the year 1780

In May, one class of men, numbering 60 men, was taken from the battalion of Col. Michael Lindenmuth (Bern) for frontier service.

In June, a company of 52 men was raised as volunteers in Berks county and sent to Philadelphia under the command of Major Edward Scull.

In August, 120 men were sent to Brunswick township from the county to render frontier service.

In August, the 6th Battalion of County Militia, under the command of Col. Joseph Hiester, joined the army of Gen. Joseph Reed in New Jersey, near Camden, in pursuance of an order to supply 600 men, who were to co-operate with the main army near Philadelphia. It was in service for thirty days from Aug. 10th. The names of 437 men have been ascertained of this quota. There were six companies, commanded by the following captains:

Charles Gobin (Reading)
 Ferdinand Ritter (Albany)
 Conrad Sherman (Tulpehocken)
 John Ludwig (Heidelberg)
 Jacob Baldy (Maxatawny)
 Henry Strouch (Ruscombmanor)

In September, two companies, numbering 120 men, from the battalion of Col. Samuel Ely, were sent from the county to perform frontier service against the Indians.

During the year 1781

In May, one class of the battalion of Col. Michael Lindenmuth, numbering 64 men, was forwarded from county to render frontier service.

In June, two classes of the 6th Battalion of Militia, commanded by Col. Joseph Hiester, numbering 128 men, were placed under the command of Maj. Bayley, to guard the encampment of German prisoners at Reading.

In August, a detachment of Lieut. Daniel Stroud's company, numbering 40 men, was ordered on guard duty, and it served during August and September.

A detachment of Capt. Charles Crouse's company, numbering 36 men, was on duty at Reading guarding prisoners from Aug. 16th to Oct. 16th.

In September, there were 153 men recruited at Reading and forwarded.

Three classes of Col. Samuel Ely's Battalion, numbering 300 men, were in service at Newtown from Oct. 1st to Oct. 18th. Two of the companies are believed to have been commanded by

John Robinson (Caernarvon), 56 men
 Jacob Ladich (Brunswick)

The other companies have not been discovered.

Three other companies, about the same number of men, were also organized in the county, but on account of the want of arms the lieutenant of the county (then Col. Valentine Eckert), could not then forward them.

In October, a company of riflemen, numbering 83 men, was organized in the western end of the county, and in service under the command of Capt. Jacob Livingood (Heidelberg) until Jan. 1, 1782. The place of service has not been ascertained, but the men were paid on Jan. 16, 1782.

Militia from Greenwich and Maxatawny townships, numbering 120 men, were on a tour of duty.

Detachments from the 2d and 6th Battalions of Militia, numbering 169 men, were on duty at Reading guarding prisoners.

During the year 1782

In February, the company of Capt. John Robinson, numbering 60 men, was in service at Northumberland.

In February, the first class of militia, numbering 40 men, was in service at Reading guarding prisoners.

In August, there were two detachments of militia, one numbering 27 men, and the other 50 men, who rendered frontier service in the county.

In September, 125 men were sent from the county to render frontier service in Northumberland county.

In September, a detachment of Capt. Peter Nagel's company, numbering 40 men, was detailed to guard prisoners who were sent from Reading to Philadelphia.

RECAPITULATION

For the year 1775	95
For the year 1776	2,858
For the year 1777	2,404
For the year 1778	1,233
For the year 1779	
For the year 1780	952
For the year 1781	1,093
For the year 1782	342

8,977

Miscellaneous enlistments ascertained not included
in above statement 56
Total estimated 9,033

The number of men for the years 1776 and 1777 appears incredible, but the reader will take into consideration that the men for each year were not all in service at one time. Taking the reports of men in service that have been given in detail, and understanding that it was not possible to discover all the men that were enlisted, it can be said that the estimated total, as arranged, is not above, but rather below, the real number supplied by the county during the Revolution.

The system of supplying men was simple, and it was carried on in such a manner as to render assistance to the government with as little injury as possible to the several districts from which the men were called. The number demanded at one time was not extraordinary, compared with the total number subject to military duty, and the term of service was limited to such a period that the business interests of the people should not suffer serious losses. In this way it was possible to have at least several hundred men from a county in service all the time.

COLONELS ASCERTAINED—17

Mark Bird	Nicholas Lotz
Daniel Brodhead	Jacob Morgan
Valentine Eckert	Jacob Morgan, Jr.
Samuel Ely	George Nagel
Balser Geehr	John Patton
Henry Haller	Henry Spyker
Joseph Hiester	Daniel Udree
Daniel Hunter	Jacob Weaver
Michael Lidenrauth	

CAPTAINS ASCERTAINED—85

Jacob Baldy	Philip Krick
George Battorf	Jacob Ladich
George Beaver	Sebastian Lentz
Jacob Bower	John Leshar
Michael Bretz	Jacob Livingood
Henry Christ	John Ludwig
Charles Crouse	Jacob Maurer
Stephen Crumrine	George May
Peter Decker	John McMurray
Daniel Deturck	John Mears
Samuel Dewees	George Miller
John Diehl	Sebastian Miller
Jacob Dreihelbis	Conrad Minich
Conrad Eckert	David Morgan
Henry Egner	Jacob Moser
Sebastian Emrich	— Moyer
John Essington	George Nagel
Philip Filbert	Peter Nagel
— Fisher	John Old
George Focht	Dirck Pennybacker
Conrad Geist	Daniel Reiff
Charles Gobin	John Reitmeyer
Jacob Graul	Jacob Richstein
John Graul	George Richm
Thomas Herbert	Ferdinand Ritter
Joseph Hiester	John Robinson
Jacob Hill	Jacob Roth (Rhoads)
Jonathan Jones	Jacob Rothermel
George Kemp	Nicholas Scheffer
Henry Knause	Edward Scull
Philip Kreamer	Peter Scull

William Scull
Jacob Shadel
Henry Shepler
Conrad Sherman
Casper Smeck
Peter Smith
John Soder
— Spatts
John Spohn
Leonard Stone
Henry Strauch
Joseph Talbot

Francis Umbenhauer
Bartholomew Von Heer
Peter Wanner
John Wagner
Benjamin Weiser
Conrad Weiser
Henry Weaver
Jacob Whetstone
Matthias Wick
George Will
Daniel Womelsdorf

ARMY SUPPLIES FROM COUNTY.—During the Revolution, many army supplies were either manufactured or produced in the county of Berks, more especially in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777; and these were collected from the several districts and deposited at Reading, for the purpose of enabling the Commissioners of Forage to fill the proportional allotments of the districts with reasonable dispatch. They consisted of grain, flour, hay, powder, clothing, accoutrements, horses and wagons.

The superior geographical situation of Reading led Congress to select the place as a general depot for storing supplies of all kinds. It was far enough from Philadelphia that General Howe could not entertain any thoughts of capturing the stores with safety to his army, and yet it was near enough to enable the storekeeper to fill orders made upon him promptly.

STORE HOUSE AT READING.—In a letter of Col. Jacob Morgan to the Executive Council, dated Sept. 18, 1777, he stated as follows:

There is at present a great quantity of powder and other stores belonging to the State in this town [Reading] and there are two companies now out of said classes mounting guard over said stores. The people of the town are vastly uneasy at having so much powder here, and, unless it be very well guarded, that uneasiness will increase to a great degree, as fire happening to the house where the powder is lodged would tear the town to pieces and destroy the whole body of inhabitants. Many persons of the town, above 53 years of age, would make part of a guard if taken into pay, which would render it easy to send so many more of the militia as would otherwise be requisite for such guard. The Continental Press and Medicinal store also require some guard.

By a letter of the same day from Christ and Shoemaker [Justices] to the Council it would appear that they had called two companies of militia to guard the said stores—"not forgetting the Continental Treasurer." The stores included a "vast number of ammunition in the town, or near it."

LOTZ RECEIPT BOOK.—In 1893, the compiler saw the receipt book of Col. Nicholas Lotz in which receipts were taken for moneys paid from Aug. 12, 1780, to Dec. 5, 1781. The total amount was \$202,033. Some of the items were reckoned in pounds, shillings and pence, but the most of them were in dollars. A great part of the amount was paid to him in currency, which was never redeemed, whereby he and others suffered great losses.

IRON INDUSTRIES.—Thirteen prominent iron industries were carried on successfully in the county during the Revolution. They were situated in the



four sections of the county, along strong streams of water, as follows:

FURNACES

Oley, in Oley, on Manatawny creek.
Pt. Pleasant, in Colebrookdale, on West Branch of Perkiomen.
Hereford, in Hereford, on West Branch of Perkiomen.
Hopewell, in Union, on French creek.
Berkshire, in Heidelberg on tributary of Tulpehocken creek.

FORGELS

Pine, Spring and Oley, in Douglass, District, and Oley, on Manatawny creek.
Mt. Pleasant, in Colebrookdale, on West Branch.
Bird's, in Robeson, on Hay creek.
Gibbs'lar, in Robeson, on Allegheny creek.
Moselem, in Richmond, on Ontelaunee creek.
Charming, in Tulpehocken, on Tulpehocken creek.

Ironmasters.—The ironmasters, the proprietors of the foregoing industries, were Mark Bird, John Patton, John Leshner, David Potts, John Old, Thomas Mayberry, Daniel Udree, George Ege and Christian Lower. The assessed value of the property of these men in the different sections of the county amounted to a very large sum in the aggregate, showing that they were in a situation to contribute a strong influence toward the successful prosecution of the war. They supplied the Continental Government with cannon-balls, cast-iron and wrought-iron in various shapes, and they cooperated heartily in the great social movement for representative government. Their assistance was of the greatest consequence and cannot be overestimated. We can take great pride in the fact that the county then possessed such enterprising, public-spirited and patriotic men.

OTHER INDUSTRIES.—There were other industries which are equally worthy of mention, such as numerous grist-mills, saw-mills, gun factories, wheelwright shops and blacksmith shops. These were also situated along the strong streams in different sections of the county and they rendered great assistance to Congress and the Council. Nicholas Lotz, Sebastian Levan, and Daniel Brodhead were three extensive millers, and Valentine Eckert and Christian Lower were two influential blacksmiths, who identified themselves prominently with public affairs at that time. Knapsacks and gun-barrels were made in different parts of the county. And numerous energetic, hopeful and persistent farmers constituted the very foundation of the public welfare.

CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY

During the progress of the Revolution, the government was compelled to resort to the emission of "bills of credit" with which to purchase army supplies, etc., and to satisfy the demands of carrying on the war. Gold and silver were not then known to exist in the country in any quantity equal to the demands of the war, nor could they be procured. Direct taxation, though practicable, was deemed impolitic. The only plausible expedient in

the power of Congress was the emission of these bills. Congress therefore resolved in June, 1775, to emit such bills to the amount of two millions of dollars; in July, ordered a million more; and in November, three millions more; and for their redemption, pledged the Confederate Colonies. Subsequently, other emissions were made; and such was the animation of the times that these several emissions, amounting to twenty millions, circulated for some time without any depreciation, and commanded the resources of the country for public service equally with gold or silver. But there was a point both in time and quantity beyond which this process ceased to operate; that time was about eighteen months from the date of first emission and that quantity twenty millions. The rulers thought it still premature to urge taxation, and they, therefore, resorted to the expedient of further emissions. The ease with which the means of procuring supplies were furnished by simply striking off bills of credit, and the readiness with which the people received them, prompted Congress to multiply them beyond the limits of prudence, and a depreciation of their value was the unavoidable consequence.

At first, this depreciation was scarcely perceptible, but it increased daily, till finally the currency became worthless. It began at different periods in different States; but in general about the middle of the year 1777, and then increased progressively for several years. In the latter part of 1777 it was two dollars in currency for one in specie; in 1778, five for one; in 1779, twenty-seven for one; in 1780, fifty for one. After 1780, the circulation was limited to certain localities; but where the currency passed, it depreciated to one hundred and fifty dollars for one. In Pennsylvania, the Executive Council resolved, as late as Feb. 1, 1781, that Continental money should be received for public dues at the exchange of seventy-five dollars in currency for one in specie. But an Act provided that after June 1st following, only specie or equivalent bills of credit should be received for taxes or other public dues; and this rendered the currency worthless in the State. This extraordinary depreciation brought great loss to many of the people who had aided the government in the grand struggle for freedom. In this respect, the soldiers suffered most. The people of Reading, and especially of the county, met with considerable losses thereby. Some of them had large quantities which were transmitted for some time until lost or destroyed. It was not redeemed.

INCUMBENTS OF POSITIONS

The following men from Berks county occupied the positions named, for the time stated, during the Revolution:

NATIONAL

Delegate in Continental Congress

Edward Biddle, 1774-75; 1775-76; 1778-79.

Secretary of Board of War

Edward Scull, May 16, 1778.

Surgeons

Dr. Jonathan Potts

Dr. Bodo Otto

Surveying Department

William Scull, January, 1778, to September, 1779.

Deputy Quartermaster-General

Jacob Morgan, Jr., April, 1778, to 1783.

STATE*Delegates to Provincial Conference, June 18, 1776*

Jacob Morgan	Daniel Hunter
Henry Haller	Valentine Eckert
Mark Bird	Nicholas Lotz
Bodo Otto	Joseph Hiester
Benjamin Spyker	Charles Shoemaker

Delegates to Constitutional Convention, July 15, 1776

Jacob Morgan	Daniel Hunter
Gabriel Hiester	Valentine Eckert
John Leshar	Charles Shoemaker
Benjamin Spyker	Thomas Jones, Jr.

Members of Assembly

Edward Biddle.....1774	Valentine Eckert.....1779
'75, '78	Christian Lower.....1779
Henry Christ.....1774, '75	'82, '83
Henry Haller.....1776	George Ege.....1779
John Leshar.....1776	'80, '82
James Read.....1777	Jonathan Jones.....1779
Benjamin Spyker.....1777	John Patton.....1780 '82
Sebastian Levan.....1777	Thomas Miltlin.....1780
'78, '79	Joseph Hiester.....1780, '81
Daniel Hunter.....1777	Benjamin Weiser.....1781
'78, '81	John Bishop.....1781
Balser Geehr.....1777	Daniel Cramer.....1782, '83
'80, '81	Abraham Lincoln.....1782, '83
Jonathan Potts.....1778	Nicholas Lotz.....1782, '83
Mark Bird.....1778, '80	
Gabriel Hiester.....1778	John Ludwig.....1782
'79, '81	John Rice.....1783

Edward Biddle was Speaker of the Assembly for the year 1774-75.

The representation of the county was as follows: Two for the years 1774 and 1775, and six for the remaining years.

The foregoing Representatives were elected the several years named for the term of one year.

Executive Councillors

Richard Tea (ironmaster of Hereford township) was a councillor for a time. He was elected in 1776, and served until April, 1777, when he resigned.

Jacob Morgan, Jr., was qualified on Sept. 3, 1777. He resigned April 4, 1778, upon accepting the appointment of D. Q. M. General. On May 23, 1778, an order was drawn to him for £301, 3s., for attending Council 180 days, including mileage.

James Read succeeded him, and was qualified on June 30, 1778. On Dec. 1, 1778, he received one vote for President of the Executive Council. He resigned June 4, 1781, and on the 5th, was elected Register of the Court of Admiralty of Pennsylvania.

Sebastian Levan, of Maxataway, was also a councillor, and officiated from Oct. 31, 1781, to Oct. 15, 1781.

Wagon Masters General

Henry Haller, June, 1779, to Aug. 14, 1780.
Jacob Morgan, Jr., Aug. 14, 1780, to 1783.

Superintendent of Commissioners of Purchases

Jacob Morgan, Jr., Aug. 14, 1780, to 1783.

Register of Court of Admiralty

James Read, June 5, 1781.

Prothonotary of Supreme Court

Edward Burd, Esq., appointed Aug. 12, 1778; he continued until Jan. 26, 1786, when he was re-appointed.

COUNTY*Committee on Correspondence, July 2, 1774*

Edward Biddle	Christopher Schultz
James Read	Thomas Dundas
Daniel Brodhead	Jonathan Potts
Henry Christ	

Committee on Observation, Dec. 5, 1774

Edward Biddle	John Jones
Christopher Schultz	John Old
Jonathan Potts	Sebastian Levan
William Reeser	George Nagel
Balser Geehr	Christopher Witman
Michael Bright	Jacob Shoemaker
John Patton	James Lewis
Mark Bird	

Colonels of Associated Battalions, 1775

Edward Biddle	Balser Geehr
Mark Bird	Christian Lower
Daniel Brodhead	

Standing Committee, 1775

Edward Biddle	Collinson Read, Sec.
Mark Bird	Valentine Eckert
Jonathan Potts	Nicholas Lotz, Chairman
Daniel Brodhead	Sebastian Levan
Balser Geehr	Richard Tea

Lieutenants of County

Jacob Morgan, June 9, 1777, to 1780; Valentine Eckert, Jan. 8, 1781, to 1783.

Sub-Lieutenants

Henry Shoemaker	Daniel Udree
Christian Lower, Jr.	Jacob Sweyer
Valentine Eckert	John Mears

Paymasters of County Militia

Daniel Hunter, 1776, to Aug. 25, 1777; Henry Spyker, Aug. 26, 1777, to 1783.

Superintendent of Purchases

John Patton, 1778.

Commissioners of Forage

Valentine Eckert.....1778	Nicholas Lotz...1780 to 1783
John Leshar.....1778	

In October, 1779, Col. Michael Lindenmuth was appointed Commissioner to purchase flour for the French fleet.

Collectors of Excise

John Biddle.....1774	John Witman.....1780-81
Daniel Levan.....1779-80	Conrad Poos.....1782-83

Wagon-Master

Henry Haller, 1778 to 1783

Quartermaster

Jacob Morgan, Jr., 1778

Storekeeper at Reading

Joseph Cowperthwaite, 1778

Local Committees

Owing to the aid given by divers inhabitants to the enemy, the Council in September, 1777, appointed committees to dispose of the property of such offenders and make return of their proceedings under oath. The following committee was appointed for Berks county:

Thomas Parry	Daniel Udree
David Morgan	Henry Spyker
Peter Nagel	Joseph Hiester
Henry Haller	

This committee appointed two persons in each district to make provision for distressed families whose husbands and fathers were in service. The appointees for Reading were Henry Hahn and Peter Feather.

On Nov. 8th, the Council also appointed committees to collect arms, clothing, etc., from the inhabitants who did not take the oath of allegiance, or who aided the enemy, and to deliver them to the clothier-general. The committee in Berks county was:

Henry Christ	Nathan Lewis
Henry Haller	John Lower
Thomas Parry	Godfrey Richm
Daniel Udree	Jacob Seltzer
Philip Miller	Nicholas Scheffer

Committee on Attainder and Vesting Forfeited Estates, 1778

Thomas Parry	David Morgan
Henry Haller	

Auditing Committee

Francis Richardson, Reynold Keene, Collinson Read, James Biddle and Henry Haller were appointed Jan. 23, 1777, commissioners for the county, to audit and settle the accounts for arms and accoutrements purchased, the property of persons lost in actual service, and of those who were killed, died in service, or were made prisoners.

Judges

Peter Spyker.....1775-83	Jonathan Potts.....1776-77
George Douglass...1775-83	Daniel Levan.....1777
Balsar Geehr.....1775-83	Sebastian Zimmerman ...
John Patton.....1775-77	.....1778-83
Jacob Morgan.....1775-77	William Recser.....1778-83
Mark Bird.....1775-76	

Peter Spyker was appointed president judge of all the courts on Nov. 18, 1780.

Justices of the Peace

1777—Henry Christ, Reading; Jacob Shoemaker, Windsor; James Read, Reading; Daniel Hiester, Heidelberg; Peter Spyker, Tulpehocken; Jacob Weaver, John Old, Amity; John Ludwig, Exeter; Benj. Shott; Christopher Schultz, Hereford; Samuel Ely, Richmond; Jacob Waggoner, Bern; Daniel Rothermel, Maiden-reck; Charles Shoemaker, Windsor; Egidius Meyer, Jacob Morgan, Caernarvon; Thomas Parry, Union.
1778—Benjamin Weiser, Heidelberg; Michael Lindemuth, Bern; Gabriel Hiester, Bern.
1780—John Geldin, Olcy.

County Commissioners

Samuel Hoch.....1775-76	Thomas Jones.....1780-82
Michael Bright.....1775-77	Thomas Parry.....1781-83
Abraham Lincoln...1775-78	Daniel Messersmith
Christian Lower....1777-79	.....1782-83
John Kerlin.....1778-80	Michael Furrer.....1783
Adam Witman.....1779-81	

Sheriffs

George Nagel.....1775	Henry Hoffa.....1780-81
Henry Vanderslice...1776-77	Philip Kraemer.....1782-83
Daniel Levan.....1778-79	

Treasurers

Christopher Witman1775-79	Daniel Levan.....1780-83
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Assessors

The assessors appointed by the county commissioners for the years named were:
1776—Vernor Stamm, Michael Furrer, Paul Geiger, John Spohn, John Kerlin, John Egner.
1777—John Hartman, Michael Furrer, John Robinson, John Egner, George Kelchner, Joseph Sands.

INDEPENDENCE AND PEACE.

The surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown on Oct. 19, 1781, was virtually the end of the war between Great Britain and America. The news of the surrender reached London on the 25th of November, following. Several months afterward, the warfare in the American Colonies was discussed and its continuance discouraged in the House of Commons. These discussions were continued with earnestness till they culminated in a preliminary treaty of peace on Nov. 30, 1782. In the first article of this treaty, "the independence of the thirteen United States of America" was recognized. The treaty was not made final then, owing to the three allied powers—Great Britain, France and Spain—having been pledged to one another not to conclude a treaty except by common consent. The final treaty was concluded at Paris on Sept. 3, 1783, and thereby the United States was acknowledged to be "free, sovereign and independent."

During these two years of negotiation and delay, there were no general military operations. But great anxiety was felt over the prospects for a permanent peace. Through the inactivity of the army, the officers and soldiers became restless; also discontented, because they were not rewarded for their patriotic services. An attempt was made by anonymous and seditious publications to inflame their minds and to induce them to unite in redressing their grievances whilst they had arms in their hands. But Washington succeeded in quieting them. His wisdom and eloquence elicited from the officers the unanimous adoption of a resolution by which they declared "that no circumstances of distress or danger should induce a conduct that might tend to sully the reputation and glory they had acquired; that the army continued to have unshaken confidence in the justice of Congress and their country; and that they viewed with abhorrence and

rejected with disdain the infamous proposition in the late anonymous address to the officers of the army."

RETURN OF SOLDIERS.—In order to avoid the inconveniences of dismissing a great number of soldiers in a body, furloughs were freely granted. In this way, a great part of the unpaid army was disbanded and dispersed over the States without tumult or disorder. As they had been easily and speedily formed out of farmers, mechanics and laborers in 1775, so with equal facility did they throw off their military character and resume their former occupations. They had taken up arms earnestly for political freedom, but when these were no longer necessary, they laid them down peaceably to become again good citizens, as they had been for eight years patriotic soldiers.

WHISKEY INSURRECTION, 1794.

CAUSE.—As early as 1756, the province of Pennsylvania had looked to excise on ardent spirits for the means of sustaining its bills of credit. The original law was limited to a period of ten years; but it was extended from time to time as necessities pressed upon the treasury. During the Revolution, the law was generally evaded in the western part of the State by considering all spirits as *for domestic use*, such having been excepted from excise. But, when the debts of the Revolution began to press upon the States, the government officials became more vigilant in the enforcement of the law and Congress, after a long debate, passed an Act in March, 1791, increasing the duty on imported spirits and levying a tax of four pence per gallon on all distilled spirits, which went into operation in July following. The Legislature had instructed their representatives in Congress to vote against the law.

Opposition arose at once in the western counties of the State, and resolutions were adopted at public meetings demanding an unconditional appeal. Liberty-poles were erected, and people even assembled in arms to resist officers in the enforcement of the law. Various public excitements continued until 1794, when an insurrection ensued. Governor Mifflin declined to call out the militia to suppress the insurrection, and, as a consequence, the spirit extended into contiguous States.

President Washington called on Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia for fifteen thousand men, and sent commissioners to the scene of the disturbance in Washington county, with power to arrange for peaceful submission any time before Sept. 14, 1794. But the commissioners returned to Philadelphia ten days after that date without a settlement. The troops were promptly put in motion, the governors of the several States named commanding their respective quotas. Governor Lee, of Virginia, had chief command of the

army. On the appearance of the troops in November, the insurrection subsided. There was no opposition and no bloodshed. Among the Pennsylvania troops, there was a company from Reading, under the command of Capt. Daniel De B. Keim. This company was formed from certain survivors of the Continental army, which had been commanded by Lieut.-Col. Nicholas Lotz, and was called the "Reading Union Volunteers." It was afterward known as the "Reading Artillerists." This insurrection cost the government \$1,100,000.

TROOPS FROM COUNTY.—The proportion of troops which was to be supplied by Berks county toward the quota of Pennsylvania militia under the requisition of the President of the United States, was 434 officers and privates, and 26 cavalry. The 434 men were placed under the command of Brig.-Gen. Francis Murray, in the 2d Brigade. The Adjutant-General of the State issued an order on Sept. 11, 1794, requiring the quota for the counties of Bucks, Northampton and Berks to assemble at Reading, receive arms, equipments and camp equipage, and march thence by way of Harrisburg to Carlisle.

The Quartermaster-General of Pennsylvania, Clement Biddle, arrived at Reading on Sunday evening, Sept. 28, 1794. In a letter by him to Governor Mifflin dated the day following, he remarked about the Berks county troops: "Colonel Cowperthwaite had collected four hundred men in the encampment at Peters's farm, who were fully furnished with everything they required. The drafts from the county continued to come in and he proposed marching tomorrow." And he reported that Captain Forrest's troops had moved from Reading on Saturday (27th); that he expected the Bucks County Militia here on 30th; and that the Militia of Berks County would assemble on Oct. 1st; also that the rear of the Jersey troops would march from here on the 30th under General White.

WASHINGTON AT READING.—In another letter to Governor Mifflin, dated at Reading, Oct. 2, 1794, he stated that—"The President was here last night, and went on this morning to Carlisle." He also reported then that "the cavalry of this county [Berks] are by this time at Carlisle. Captain Spayd has a fine company of infantry ready to march, and I shall hasten the drafts from the county off to-morrow." The cavalry mentioned was Moore's.

HOUSE-TAX AND LIBERTY-POLES, 1799.

CAUSE.—During the early part of Adams's administration, Congress passed an Act requiring a direct tax to be levied upon houses. This tax was called the "house-tax," also "window-tax." The Federal government, in collecting it in the eastern counties of Pennsylvania, caused considerable excitement and opposition, which eventually broke out in an insurrection in 1799. The leader was John Fries, of Bucks county, who was tried and convicted of high treason and sentenced to be hanged, but President Adams, against the advice of his cabinet pardoned him, and also issued a general am-



nesty for all the offenders. The excitement extended into the northeastern border of Berks county.

EXCITEMENT AT READING.—The insurrection was indirectly the cause of a considerable commotion at Reading. Certain troops were called out to suppress the insurrection; and among them was Captain Montgomery's company of Light Dragoons from Lancaster. Their way to the scene of excitement was through Reading. Upon arriving here they cut down certain "Liberty-poles," insulted the people, etc.; and these unwarranted performances induced the *Adler* to publish a letter, criticising their conduct. This appeared whilst the company was on the way to Northampton county. But upon their return they heard of it, and this naturally developed in them as soldiers a spirit of revenge. So they went to Jacob Schneider, the senior proprietor of the *Adler*, and demanded from him the name of the person who had written the letter condemning and ridiculing them. But he refused to comply and his refusal led the soldiers to spend their anger on him by taking him forcibly to the market-house and giving him a certain number of lashes.

Mr. Schneider made complaint before a justice of the peace and caused the criminals to be arrested, but Captain Montgomery denied the authority to make the arrest, and the matter was referred to General Macpherson, who said he would look into it. By the time Montgomery's troops returned to Reading on their way home, Strohecker had erected a liberty-pole in the place of the one erected by his children. Hearing this, the soldiers went to Strohecker's place and attempted to compel a common laborer to cut down the "offensive wood," notwithstanding he protested against doing so. They succeeded in divesting the pole, and with it as a trophy they rode through the streets of Reading to their quarters. In a few days they left, but on the 24th of April an army, under Gen. Macpherson, arrived at Reading. They apprehended some of the insurrectionists, who were afterward tried; some of them were found guilty, some fined and imprisoned, and others condemned to be capitally punished; but none atoned with their lives—they were pardoned through executive clemency.

KEIM'S COMPANY COMPLIMENTED.—Upon the breaking-up of the headquarters at Reading, on April 22, 1799, General Macpherson addressed the following interesting letter to Capt. Daniel Keim:

While I congratulate you and the company you command on their return home, I take an additional pleasure in expressing my complete satisfaction with every part of their steady and soldier-like conduct during a very fatiguing though short expedition. It is much to be regretted that in a country blessed as this is, by an excellent constitution faithfully administered, there should be found any portion of its inhabitants so ignorant, or so wicked, as to oppose laws peculiarly adapted to the case of the mass of the people, since the burden falls immediately upon the opulent. But it is a great consolation to see gentlemen, such as compose your company, come forward and brave fatigue and danger in support of the honor and happiness of their country. Accept, sir, my sincere

thanks for this instance of your patriotism, and be pleased to convey to every individual my particular acknowledgments, best wishes and affectionate farewell.

EMBARGO OF 1807

Congress passed an Act on Dec. 22, 1807, laying an embargo on all the ships and vessels in the ports and harbors of the United States in pursuance of a recommendation of President Jefferson. It prohibited the departure of all American vessels and all foreign vessels, except those in ballast. No merchandise whatever was to be exported. The Act was not simply to save American ships from danger, as Jefferson suggested in his message, but it was a measure of aggression against England. It was unpopular in proportion as men were or were not engaged in commerce. The maritime States thought that the agricultural States took a special satisfaction in a *quasi* war, of which all the burden fell at first upon commerce; but the burden at length became universal. The men whose tobacco, corn and cotton could not be sent to market soon learned that they also, as well as the carriers of those products, were paying a heavy tax by this interdiction of commerce. Under the pressure of public opinion, this Act was repealed on March 1, 1809, and another Act was then substituted which interdicted the commercial intercourse between the United States, Great Britain and France, and forbade imports from Europe. From this policy of non-intercourse and from other difficulties, which in a state of war hindered importations from Europe, there was born unexpectedly that gigantic system under which the United States has become a great manufacturing nation.

During this interdiction, the people of Berks county began to feel the evil effects of this policy of non-intercourse. A number of millers and other citizens met at Reading on April 11, 1812, "for the purpose of taking into consideration the late measures of Congress, the perilous situation of our common country, and of consulting and devising such means or measures as may tend to relieve us from the distress which impends over us"; and passed resolutions disapproving of the action of Congress.

ENGLISH WAR, 1812-15

CAUSE.—The Revolution was carried to a successful termination, and Independence, which the Colonies had declared in 1776, was thereby established. But though peace was declared to exist between the two nations, the British government conducted itself persistently in an offensive manner toward the people of the United States, their commerce, etc., and to their great injury for thirty years. The United States government passed naturalization laws whereby foreigners could be naturalized and become citizens, but the British government contended that a British subject could not be naturalized, and claimed the right of stopping United States vessels, searching for seamen of English birth, and impressing them into their service.

In exercising this right, they stationed ships at harbors of the United States and searched every departing and arriving vessel. They were so vigilant that within a period of eight years they captured nine hundred vessels and impressed over six thousand seamen into their navy. All this humiliation was borne with patience, but finally the complaints became too loud, and the injuries too grievous to be endured any longer, and President Madison made them the subject of a message to Congress on June 1, 1812, which ended in a declaration of war on June 19, 1812.

Anticipating this Declaration of War, Governor Snyder issued an Order on May 12th, requiring the quota of troops from Pennsylvania, fourteen thousand, to be promptly raised and formed into two divisions. The first division included the troops from Berks county and was placed under the command of Maj.-Gen. Isaac Worrell. A noble response was made to this call; for the troops tendered exceeded three times the quota requested.

The naval battle on Lake Erie was fought on Sept. 10, 1813, with brilliant success. Commodore Perry then sent his famous despatch to General Harrison: "We have met the enemy, and they are ours." The news reached Reading on the 27th of September following, and a grand illumination of the town took place in the evening from 7 till 10 o'clock, to signalize the glorious event.

FAMILIES FROM PHILADELPHIA.—During this period a number of English families, resident at Philadelphia, left the city for the interior parts of the country owing to a law which required them to move away from the sea-coast and ports at least fifty miles. Some of these families went to Reading, and took quarters at the "Tyson Inn," at the head of Franklin street (where the Park public school is situated). Whilst here (in August, 1814) the city of Washington was captured by the English, who wantonly destroyed the government buildings, excepting the patent office. This news caused these families to rejoice; and, to express their joy, they carried on dancing with the assistance of music; but they misconceived the temper of the German people of this inland borough, and soon found that their conduct wounded their national pride. In the midst of their demonstrations, they were suddenly attacked by a party of citizens, and the attack was made so earnestly as to require the building to be closed and the performance to be stopped.

This destruction of the Capitol and public buildings at Washington, and the threatened attack on Baltimore by the enemy shortly afterward, brought the war near to Pennsylvania. The march of the enemy toward the interior by way of the Potomac river and Chesapeake bay naturally stimulated the military spirit of the State and a great number of men rallied in her defense. When the news reached Reading this spirit became thoroughly aroused in the entire county.

COMPANIES FROM COUNTY.—There were eleven companies enlisted in this war from Berks county, classified with the 2d Brigade, under the command of Maj.-Gen. Daniel Udree, of Oley, in two regiments: the 1st Regiment, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Jeremiah Shappell, of Windsor, and the 2d, by Lieut.-Col. John Lotz, of Reading.

Eight of the companies in the 1st Regiment were commanded by the following captains:

John May	George Ritter
John Mauger	Henry Willott
Jacob Marshall	Jonathan Jones
George Marx	George Zieher

And three of the companies in the 2d, by the following captains:

Thomas Moore	Gabriel Old
John Christman	

These eleven companies were stationed at York, Pennsylvania, from September, 1814, to March, 1815.

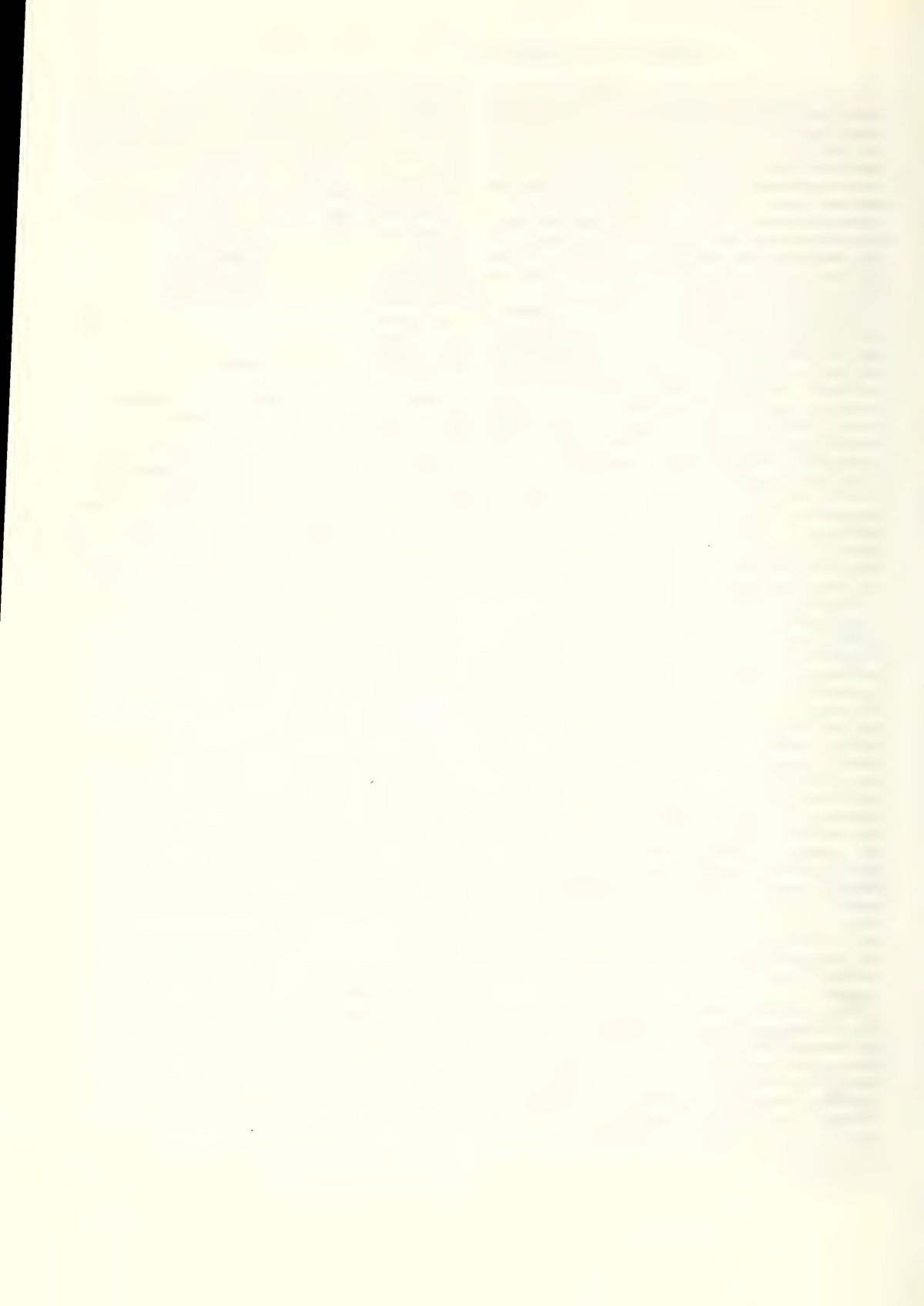
There was a twelfth company from the county, the Reading Washington Guards, commanded by Capt. Daniel De B. Keim. It rendered service at Wilmington, Delaware, in the latter part of September, 1814; and afterward it was attached to the "Advance Light Brigade" as the 11th Company in the 1st Regiment of the Penna. Volunteer Infantry, commanded by General Cadwalader, with which it continued until the close of the war.

PEACE DECLARED.—Peace was concluded at Ghent on Dec. 24, 1814, but it was not till Feb. 22, 1815, that the event became known at Reading. During that day, the citizens of the borough signalized it by shooting off cannon, and at night by a grand illumination in which sixteen hundred pounds of candles were consumed.

MEXICAN WAR, 1846 TO 1848

CAUSE.—The Mexican war arose out of the question relating to the annexation of Texas to the United States. The constitution of Mexico prohibited slavery in Texas, and this provision was a sufficient reason why the Southern States should wish to control it. President Adams and also President Jackson had made fruitless efforts to buy the province; and subsequently for some years the scheme of annexation was considered. One of the last acts of Jackson's official life was the appointment of an official agent to Texas, thereby acknowledging the independence of the province. This was looked upon as the first step toward obtaining possession of territory large enough for five new slave States. Henceforward, the project was urged with persistence, but little success till about 1842, when President Tyler gave it his encouragement. It was argued that if slavery were abolished in Texas, the ruin of the Southern States was inevitable, but if the province were annexed to the Union, the future of the slave States would be brilliant.

In 1844, Calhoun became Secretary of State, and he "believed in annexation at any cost," and Presi-



dent Tyler justified Calhoun's invitation to Texas to join the United States because he thought Great Britain was engaged in a diplomatic intrigue to abolish slavery in Texas. Calhoun then made a treaty with Texas in reference to annexation without the consent of Mexico, but offered Mexico \$10,000,000 as an indemnity. At the close of Tyler's administration, a joint resolution was passed annexing Texas; and Tyler acting under this resolution, the annexation was carried. But as Tyler went out of office with the scheme carried through Congress, Polk came into office with the certainty of war with Mexico. In the beginning of May, 1846, the regular troops under General Taylor were intercepted along the Rio Grande by the Mexican troops under General Arista, and the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma ensued. Before the news of these events reached Washington, Congress had declared war on the 13th of May, and authorized the President to call for fifty thousand volunteers for one year. After carrying on war for nearly two years, the Mexicans were conquered, and a treaty of peace was signed in February, 1848, at the City of Mexico, whereby the United States acquired not only Texas, but also Arizona, New Mexico and California.

READING ARTILLERISTS.—During the excitement, a great patriotic feeling was developed at Reading, and on May 20, 1846, a large town meeting was held, presided over by Chief Burgess William Betz; at which the national government was sustained. A second meeting was held on the next day, at which appropriate resolutions were adopted, approving the course of President Polk. A prominent prevailing sentiment was—"Our country, our whole country, our country right or wrong." And during that week the volunteer companies of Reading, —Reading Artillerists, Washington Grays, and National Grays—tendered their services to the President. The first company, commanded by Capt. Thomas S. Leoser, was accepted.

A town-meeting was held in the Court-House on Dec. 19, 1846, for the purpose of devising means to aid the volunteers and a committee of prominent citizens was appointed to escort the company to Philadelphia. The meeting recommended to town council that one thousand dollars be appropriated toward the comfort of the soldiers and the relief of such of their families as needed assistance, and subsequently a loan for this amount was authorized. A similar appropriation was recommended by the grand jury of the county on the 5th of January, following, to be made by the county commissioners.

DEPARTURE FOR MEXICO.—The company left Reading for Philadelphia on Dec. 26th, and arrived on the afternoon of the same day. After their examination, the United States Surgeon pronounced them the finest body of men he had yet passed into the service. On the day previous to their departure, the officers were the recipients of numerous testimonials of regard, the workmen of the railroad

company's shops distinguishing themselves in this respect. The Captain and the Second and Third Lieutenants were in the company's employ. The officers were presented with swords. Sergeant McMichael was presented an elegant sword, revolver, sash, belt and accoutrements by his friends and shopmates engaged at Johnston's foundry. And numerous pistols and Bibles were also presented.

The Artillerists left Philadelphia by railroad on Monday morning, December 28th, and arrived at Harrisburg in the afternoon. They proceeded by railroad to Carlisle and Chambersburg, where they arrived on Tuesday morning, at 2 o'clock. After breakfast, they immediately proceeded afoot on their way to Pittsburgh. That day they walked to McConnellsburg, twenty-two miles, and Wednesday they walked to Bloody Run, twenty-six miles. The distance was arranged that Pittsburgh might be reached by Tuesday, Jan. 4th. Three large six-horse baggage teams accompanied them, having been supplied by Joel Ritter, who was sent by the citizens of Reading to pay their expenses to Pittsburgh. They arrived on Jan. 5th. On the same day, the company were mustered into the service of the United States, as Company A, in the 2d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, under the command of Col. William B. Roberts.

BATTLES ENGAGED IN.—The company, with other companies, left Pittsburgh on the 8th of January, in the boat "Anthony Wayne," and proceeded by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans, arriving there on the 15th. It served with distinction throughout the war and was particularly recognized for its bravery. It was engaged in the following battles: Vera Cruz, March 19th to 28th; Cerro Gordo, April 18th; Chapultepec, Sept. 12th; Belen Gate, Sept. 13th.

RETURN OF COMPANY.—The City of Mexico was taken on the 14th of September, the Mexicans having evacuated the capital during the previous night, owing to the capture of the San Cosmo Causeway and the Belen Road. The troops, including Company A, were stationed in this famous city till the 18th of December, when they were removed to San Angel, at which place they continued till peace was declared. They were ordered home in June, 1848, and then marched to Vera Cruz (consuming about a month in the march) where they took transportation for New Orleans. Thence they proceeded up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Pittsburgh, and were there mustered out of service on the 21st of July. They then took packets and traveled by canal to Harrisburg, and thence by railroad to Philadelphia and Reading. Some of the men went by stage directly to Reading. Upon their arrival, on the 29th of July, they were given a brilliant military reception. Numerous buildings and streets were handsomely decorated with flags and wreaths.

CIVIL WAR, 1861 TO 1865

CAUSE.—The Civil war broke out in April, 1861. The direct cause was the agitation of the subject

which related to slavery. After 1850, the extension of slavery on the one hand, and its restriction on the other, became thoroughly national questions and their animated discussion resulted in a severe struggle for the supremacy. Till this time, the South had control of political affairs through leadership and legislation, but the Southern statesmen then saw that their political power was in reality passing away through the wonderful growth of the North in population and wealth, and in political representation in the national government. A similar growth could not be effected in the South; so its leaders desired to extend the rights of slavery. This was particularly apparent upon the admission of Kansas as a State.

The Republican party, the exponent of restricting slavery to territory then occupied, became an active political factor in the country in 1856; but its Presidential candidate was defeated. Threats of secession by the Southern States had been made about that time, and it was thought that if the Republican party had been successful, secession would have been attempted. For four years this question was prominent above all other questions. Buchanan preserved the peace during his administration, but he could not preserve the balance of power. Public opinion grew more favorable toward the Republican party, and in 1860 this party appeared before the people with renewed strength. During that time the Democratic party agitated the question of slavery to such an extent that two branches of the party were created, one, the Douglas branch, for submitting the question to the people of a new State upon its erection, and the other, the Breckinridge branch, for submitting it to the Supreme court for adjudication under the national Constitution; and in the Presidential campaign of 1860 their political power was divided. The party was still strong enough, as a whole, to elect a candidate; but it was not strong enough to bear a division, especially such a division as Douglas was able to create by the support which he had won through public discussion.

Lincoln, the Republican candidate, was elected. From the sentiments of his party, especially from the sentiments of its ultra-leaders, who were styled "Abolitionists," the Southern leaders felt constrained to take earnest steps toward secession, and these were taken between the day of the election in November and the day of Lincoln's inauguration in March, not only vigorously but successfully without the slightest hindrance on the part of the national government. Prominent cabinet officials, senators and representatives withdrew from their respective positions and caused their several States to pass ordinances of secession, declaring the contract between them and the national government broken.

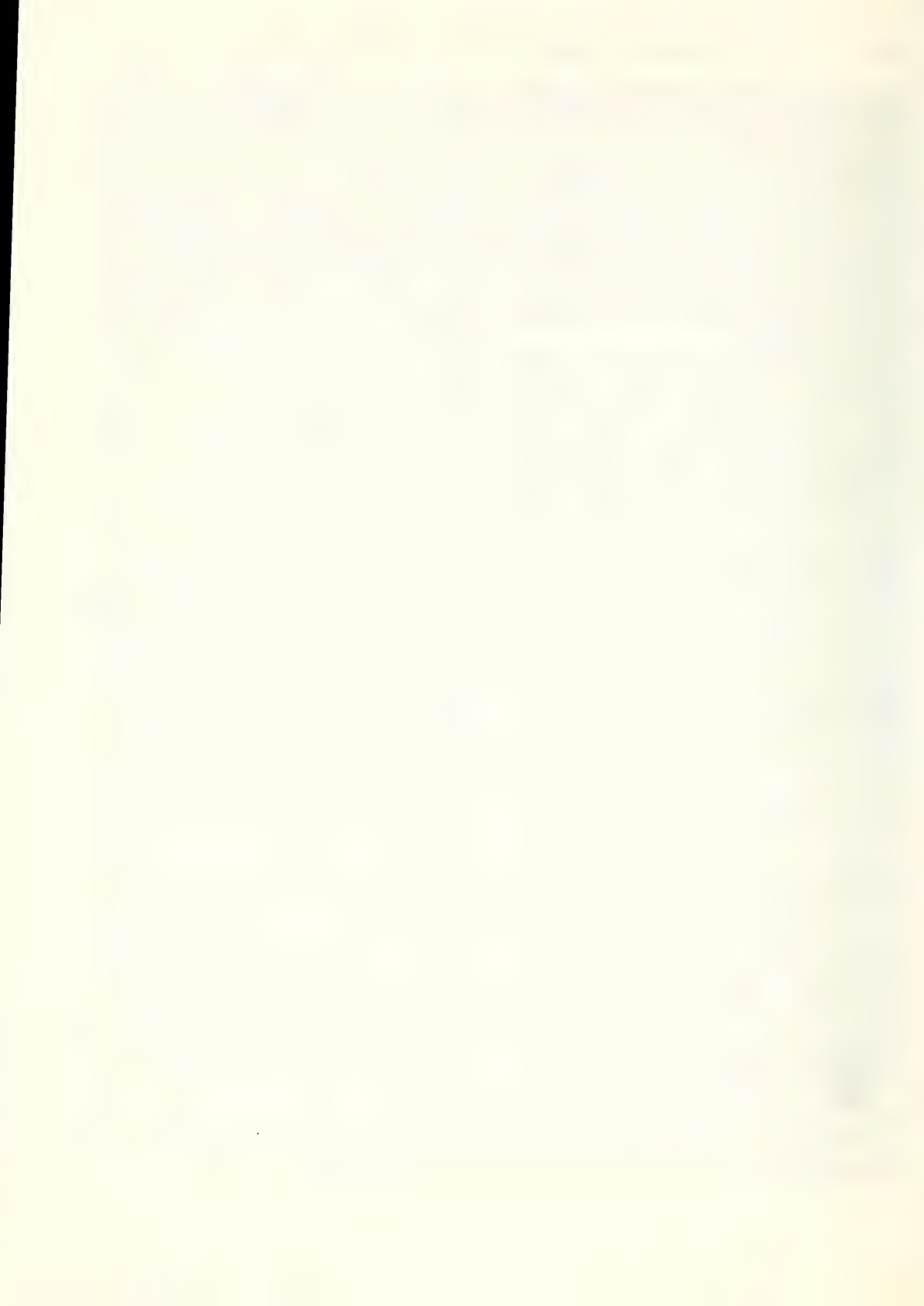
When Lincoln took possession of the government, the *status* was not only discouraging but alarming. In his inaugural address he stated that apprehension seemed to exist among the people of the Southern States that, by the accession of a Republi-

can administration, their property, peace and personal security were to be endangered, but that there never had been any reasonable cause for such apprehension; and he declared that he had no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it existed; he had no inclination to do so on the one hand, and on the other he had no lawful right, and those who had elected him did so with the full knowledge that he had made these declarations, which he had never recanted. Notwithstanding his plain and direct language to perform the duties of his office according to the Constitution and laws, without any mental reservations or any purposes to construe them by hypercritical rules; and his expressed sentiments for peace and inseparable union of the States, the Southern leaders persisted in secession and disunion.

CALL FOR TROOPS.—On the morning of the 12th of April, 1861, the military forces of South Carolina, under the leadership of Gen. Robert Beauregard, began to fire upon Fort Sumter, which was under the command of Maj. Robert Anderson. The President, finding the laws of the country opposed and the execution thereof obstructed in seven Southern States (South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas), "by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings or by the powers vested in the marshals by law," issued a proclamation on the 15th day of April, calling for seventy-five thousand militia of the several States of the Union, "to suppress said combinations and to cause the laws to be duly executed"; and he appealed "to all loyal citizens to favor, facilitate and aid this effort to maintain the honor, integrity and existence of our national Union, and the perpetuity of popular government, and to redress the wrongs already long enough endured." A requisition was made on Pennsylvania for sixteen regiments, two being wanted within three days, inasmuch as the city of Washington was entirely unprotected and a sudden dash upon it was strongly threatened.

The national government had not before done anything to cause the South to feel alarmed, and it was hoped that this simple manifestation of executive authority would restore peace, but the organization at the South was too thorough, and its purpose to establish a confederation by itself too premeditated. Men therefore rushed to arms; call after call for troops was made; thousands of lives were sacrificed; and millions of dollars were expended, in the two sections, for a right which each claimed, the one to establish a confederation and the other to maintain constituted authority; and this terrible contest continued four years before peace was restored.

PATRIOTISM OF COUNTY.—The feeling in the county for maintaining the Union and upholding the constitution was strong and continuous during the entire period from the beginning to the close



of the war; and this was exhibited by Democrats and Republicans alike. Breckenridge had received a majority over Lincoln, exceeding two thousand votes, but the sentiment for the Union was general in all the districts, especially at Reading. Companies were raised rapidly and mustered into service, altogether 104, almost entirely enlisted in and from the county, and they went to the rescue freely, moved by the highest patriotic impulse. Public meetings were numerous and earnest sympathy for the cause was manifested at all of them. The prominent men took the lead. Our judges, lawyers, merchants and business men generally, without respect to party affiliations, united to encourage and sustain the national administration. Their pronounced opinion in the matter created and preserved a proper spirit in the community. The county and city governments were constantly liberal in appropriations of money toward encouraging volunteer enlistments.

The county contained a large majority of people who were against the war, if we interpret their opinion from the exercise of their political suffrage at elections; but they were submissive and they caused no trouble, no riotous demonstration. They went to the war by the thousand; they endured conscription without opposition; and they permitted the assessment of burdensome taxation. They encouraged appropriations of money, amounting to nearly a million of dollars, expressly for the enlistment of men; and they invested large sums of money in the national securities. These, taken together, truly constitute significant evidence of devotion to their country and to the administration of its affairs by an opposite party, a party whose principles were not only different from theirs, but in fact objectionable, if not repulsive, to them. Their general co-operation under such circumstances is therefore commendable.

Capt. James McKnight offered his company of Ringgold Light Artillery, and it was the first military organization that responded to the call for troops by the President and moved to the defense of the country. This historical fact is worthy of especial mention, for in it our people take a just, patriotic pride; and it is a distinction in this great crisis of our country which no other community enjoys. Hon. William M. Hiester prepared a paper to establish the fact beyond question, and read it before the Historical Society of Berks County on June 14, 1870.

During this period, the excitement throughout the county was ever active, and several times when the State was invaded by the Rebels, and our own county was threatened with the horrors of war, it became alarming. This was particularly the case at Reading. Penn Square was daily, more or less, in commotion with the enlistment of men, the formation and exercise of companies and their departure to the seat of war or their return from it. The music of fife and drum and the marching of men (fathers, husbands, brothers and sons) thrilled the

entire community time and again. These were, indeed, events that made a lasting impression upon that generation.

The encampments (one in the northern part of Reading in 1862, and another in the eastern part in 1863) attracted much attention. They afforded the people an opportunity of forming a proper conception of camp life and military discipline. If our peaceful inhabitants did not realize the actual terrors and horrors of warfare by the booming of cannon, the explosion of shells and the destruction of property; if they did not see blood and death in their highways and upon their fields as the evidence of bitter opposition and revenge; they saw officers and soldiers in uniforms and witnessed military exercises with the weapons of war, and they knew by their own personal observations that earnest preparations were made for encounters with the enemy.

How they looked at these military cities, with tents and streets under strict regulation! how they watched the men in drill, by platoons and companies and battalions! how they pointed out generals and colonels and captains as the men who had been in war and passed safely through the jaws of death! But when the wounded, the dying and the dead were brought home to them, then they felt that the curse of rebellion was in the land.

The "Union League," a Republican association at Reading, organized after the great "Union League" at Philadelphia, was very active in enlisting men for military service; and so were the various secret societies, especially the "Junior Sons of America."

In the midst of the great excitement incident to the general feeling for war and the necessary preparations to carry it on successfully, our local energy displayed itself to a remarkable degree in every department of business. Trade was active and profitable, and it stimulated various enterprises. Railroads were projected and substantial improvements were made in every section of the county, especially at Reading; and matters pertaining to education and religion were directed with earnestness and success. The prices of all kinds of material were high; but money was abundant and a spirit of increased liberality kept it moving about actively; from hand to hand, from store to store, from bank to bank, and from place to place.

WAR MEETINGS.—After the election of Lincoln, a sentiment of fear for the preservation of the Union developed more and more rapidly with each passing day. This was more especially caused by the action of certain Southern States on the subject of secession. This fear obtained at Reading; and in order to express the opinion of this community on the subject of "preserving the integrity of the Union," a large meeting, including prominent men of both political parties, was held in the Court-House on Dec. 13, 1860. Appropriate



resolutions were adopted, favorable to the Union, but particularly recommending non-interference with the rights of property in slaves guaranteed by the Constitution to the Southern States.

On the 10th day of December (three days before) the Democratic City Club had met and reported a "Memorial to Congress on the State of the Union," prepared by a committee of thirty-three prominent Democrats, in which similar sentiments of non-interference and compromise had been expressed.

In July, 1862, when there was a threatened invasion of Pennsylvania, our people became much alarmed for the safety of their lives and property. Large and enthusiastic meetings were held in the Court-House to devise means for protection. They included all the prominent and influential citizens of Reading. Their public expressions were thoroughly patriotic; and in pursuance of their earnest recommendation the county commissioners offered a bounty of fifty dollars to every officer and private mustered into the service from the county. In September following, the commissioners again offered the same bounty for every volunteer soldier; and the city councils appropriated ten thousand dollars additional for this purpose of encouraging volunteer enlistments. In June, 1863, similar meetings were held.

APPROPRIATIONS.—The city of Reading appropriated altogether for war purposes, in bounties, relief, etc., \$373,179 and the county of Berks, the sum of \$452,389. The boroughs likewise appropriated moneys for these purposes and displayed the same patriotic spirit.

LADIES' AID SOCIETY.—The women are also worthy of mention for their patriotism. They did not enlist in practical military service; but they gave the national administration a moral support which is truly praiseworthy. Just as the "Ring-gold Light Artillery" were preparing to take the railroad train on the afternoon of April 16, 1861, to proceed to Harrisburg in answer to the President's call for troops, certain influential ladies of Reading assembled in the parlor of Mrs. Dr. Diller Luther, at No. 530 Penn street, and formed a society which they entitled "Ladies' Aid Society." Its object was to supply the soldiers with clothing and materials useful whilst in military service away from home. It was actively engaged during the entire period of the war, collecting and forwarding tons of materials. A "depot" was established at Reading, to which all the goods were carried and from which they were consigned. The country districts co-operated in this work and the women responded nobly by forwarding many materials to Reading.

This was the first society of the kind organized in the country; and as we take a just pride in having furnished the military company which was the first to respond to the call for troops and to report at Harrisburg for service, so do we take a similar pride in having organized this Ladies' Aid Society,

which was the first to take active and successful steps toward providing for the comfort and welfare of the soldiers.

This society participated actively in the matters pertaining to the Sanitary Commission at Philadelphia; and it was represented by a number of ladies at the "Sanitary Fair," which was held in that city for the purpose of raising funds to relieve the wants of the soldiers.

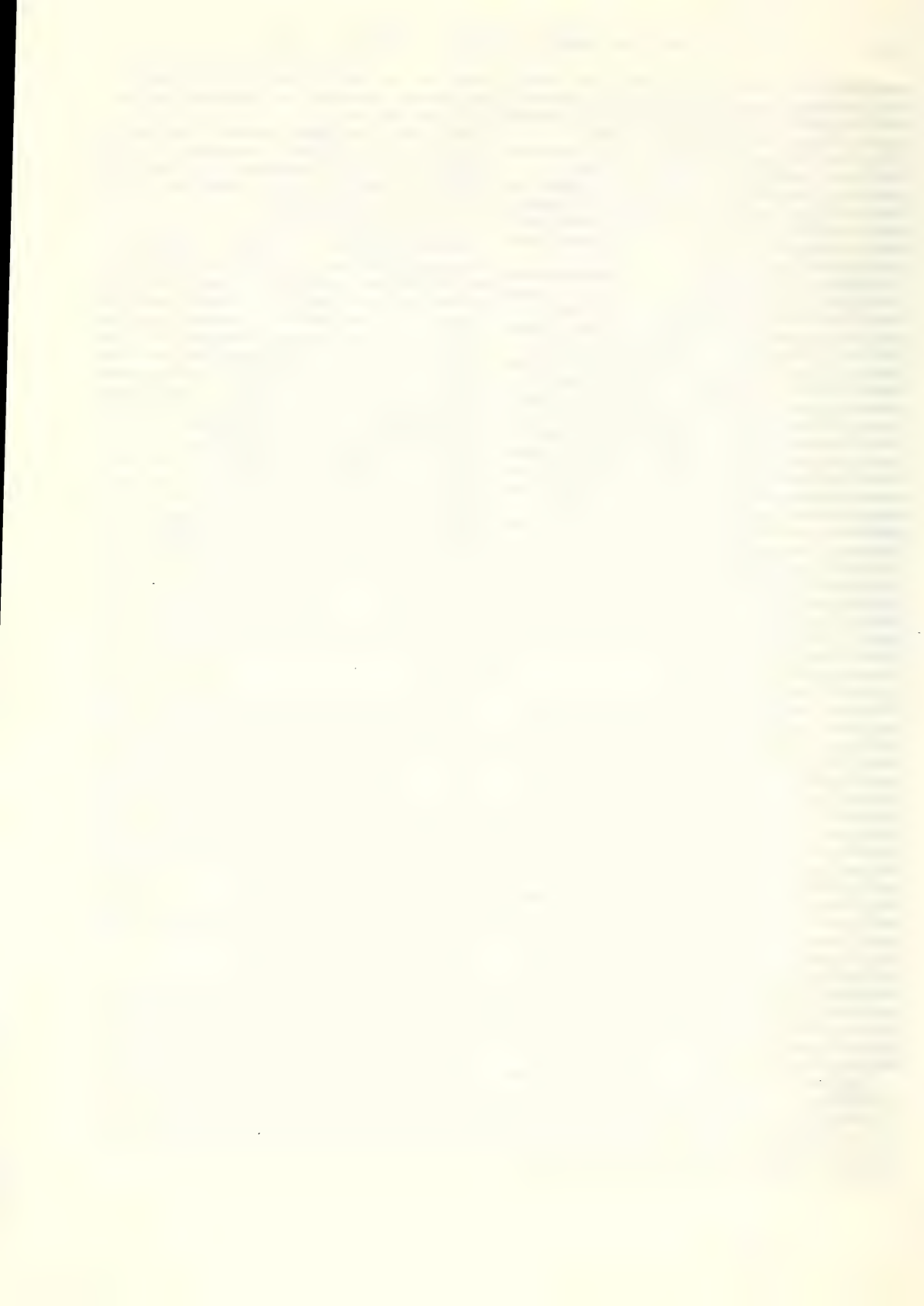
READING HOSPITAL.—A "Military Hospital" was fitted up at Reading during the middle of June, 1862, in the main exhibition building of the Agricultural Society on the "Fair Ground," with cots sufficient to accommodate 130 patients, and successfully conducted till the spring of 1863. The "Ladies' Aid Society" of Reading took an active interest in the welfare of the sick and wounded soldiers, and performed admirable service during the continuance of the hospital. The regularly commissioned surgeons in attendance were Dr. Martin Luther and Dr. John B. Brooke.

DRAFT AND QUOTAS OF BERKS COUNTY.—During the progress of the war, requisitions for troops became so frequent that the government was compelled to resort to the conscription of men so as to prosecute the war with success. Though numerous volunteers enlisted from Berks county, and the citizens of this district responded nobly to the several calls for troops, here, as elsewhere, the draft had to be made. There were four drafts, one in each of the years 1862, 1863, 1864 and 1865. The provost marshals of this district were, in succession, Henry I. Kupp, Jacob C. Hoff and George W. Durell.

The first draft was conducted in October, 1862. The total enrollment of men in the county numbered 17,809; the volunteers, 3,186; and the quota, 2,719. The number of men who volunteered in lieu of draft was 345; and the substitutes who enlisted for three years numbered 146. The total number of men drafted in the county was 1,242. These men were encamped on the "Hiester Farm," adjoining the Evans' cemetery on the north, formed into companies, and placed under the command of Col. Charles Knoderer; and they were mustered into service as the 167th Regiment.

A second draft was made August 26-29, 1863. The quota of men from the county was 1,554—this number having been fifty per cent in excess, to provide against exemptions.

The third draft proposed in March, 1864, for Berks county, was postponed for a time. The quota in the call for two hundred thousand men was 767; the deficiency of the county under former drafts was 298; total number required, 1,065; and the credit of the county on April 15, 1864, for men supplied to the government, 1,036. This deficiency of 29 men was more than supplied by re-enlisted veterans. Subsequently, however, in May, a draft was ordered, upon finding a deficiency in certain sub-districts in the county and each sub-district



was required to fill its own quota. The total number drawn was 172.

A call for five hundred thousand men was made on July 18, 1864. The quota for Berks county was 1,887; for Reading, 450. On Aug. 1st, the deficiency in the county was 1,625; in Reading 212. A draft was made on Sept. 22d, but only for one sub-district—Ruscombmnanor, 52 men, all the other sub-districts having supplied their deficiencies. A fourth draft was made Feb. 23-25, 1865. Reading, Upper Bern, Bernville, Cumru, Douglass, Spring, Upper Tulpehocken, and Womelsdorf had supplied their quota of men by volunteers. The call was made in December, 1864, for three hundred thousand; the quota for Pennsylvania was 49,563, and Berks county, 1,560.

NORTHERN MEN IN SERVICE.—The aggregate number of men furnished by Pennsylvania was 366,326; reduced to three years' standard, 267,558.

It is estimated that during the war fifty-six thousand soldiers were killed in battle; about thirty-five thousand died of wounds in hospitals, and one hundred and eighty-four thousand by disease. The total casualties, if we include those who died subsequent to their discharge, were about three hundred thousand. The loss of the Confederates was less in battle, owing to the defensive character of their struggle; but they lost more from wounds and by disease, on account of inferior sanitary arrangements. The total loss of life caused by the Rebellion exceeded half a million men, and nearly as many more were disabled.

SUMMARY OF BATTLES.—In the four years of service, the armies of the Union (counting every form of conflict, great and small) had been in 2,265 engagements with the Confederate troops. From the time when active hostilities began until the last gun of the war was fired, a fight of some kind (a raid, a skirmish or a pitched battle) occurred at some point on our widely-extended front nearly eleven times a week upon an average. Counting only those engagements in which the Union loss, in killed, wounded and missing, exceeded one hundred, the total number was 330. From the northernmost point of contact to the southernmost, the distance by any practicable line of communication was more than two thousand miles. From east to west, the extremes were fifteen hundred miles apart. During the first year of hostilities (one of preparation on both sides) the battles were naturally fewer in number and less decisive in character than afterward, when discipline had been imparted to the troops by drill, and when the *matériel* of war had been collected and stored for prolonged campaigns. The engagements of all kinds in 1861 were thirty-five in number, of which the most serious was at Bull Run. In 1862, the war had greatly increased in magnitude and intensity, as is shown by the eighty-four engagements between the armies. The net result of the year's operations was highly favorable to the Rebellion. In 1863 the battles were one hundred and ten in

number, among them some of the most significant and important victories for the Union. In 1864, there were seventy-three engagements; and in the winter and early spring of 1865 there were twenty-eight.

PAPER MONEY.—Before the Civil war, it had been the uniform practice of the different States to allow banks to be established for the issue of notes, payable in specie on demand, and the liability of the shareholders was limited. Banking then was quite free, and all individuals could carry it on provided they observed the requirements of the law. But under this system there was great fluctuation in value, which produced much bankruptcy and ruin. Between 1811 and 1820, many banks became bankrupt; and twenty years afterward, another financial panic occurred. The inflation of the banknotes was wonderful between 1830 and 1837; but just as the amount had been increased, so it decreased during the following six years till 1843; and this caused the ruin of many moneyed institutions among them the Bank of the United States, the renewal of whose charter had been denied by President Jackson.

At the beginning of the war, the paper money in circulation amounted to \$200,000,000; of which three-fourths had been issued in the Northern States; and the coin amounted to \$275,000,000. The early necessities of the national treasury in this trying period compelled the government to borrow money, and in February, 1862, Congress authorized the issue of treasury notes amounting to \$150,000,000, declaring them to be legal tender except for customs duties and interest on the national debt.

A premium on gold naturally followed, causing it to be drawn entirely from circulation, and this increased as the treasury notes multiplied. Then the National Banking System came to be introduced to supply a circulating medium, having been created on Feb. 25, 1863, and amended on June 3, 1864. A Bureau was established in the Treasury Department, with power to authorize banking associations, under certain provisions for public security, and the State banks were rapidly transformed into national banks. The currency of the country in this manner came to consist of treasury demand notes (which in 1865 amounted to \$450,000,000) and of national bank-notes (which approached the limit of \$300,000,000). The latter circulated as freely as the former, because their ultimate redemption was assured by the deposit of an adequate amount in United States bonds at the national treasury. This system was found superior in the protection which it afforded; but it could not prevent a financial crisis from sweeping over the country, especially when other causes, such as excessive manufactures and enormous losses from fire, contributed greatly toward the result.

Congress also authorized small notes for five, ten, twenty-five and fifty cents to be issued for the purpose of supplying the loss of the small de-

nominations of coin money from circulation. This was commonly known as "currency," and it was all redeemed after the war.

During this period, our merchants at Reading issued and circulated for a time their own fractional demand notes for the purpose of encouraging trade in the community and it was gradually redeemed as the national currency was supplied.

COMPANIES FROM COUNTY

The following 104 companies of men were enlisted from Berks county and mustered into the service of the national government in the Civil war. Twelve of the companies included men accredited to other counties. Reckoning all the men in the companies named and those found in different companies not classified, it can be asserted that about ten thousand men of our county were engaged in the great struggle for the preservation of the Union.

SUMMARY

Three months' service, 1861.....	733
Three years' service, 1861-64.....	3,657
Nine months' service, 1862-63.....	1,003
Volunteer militia of 1862.....	543
Drafted militia of 1862.....	1,263
Emergency troops of 1863.....	1,438
One hundred days' service, 1864.....	357
One year's service, 1864-65.....	895
Miscellaneous enlistment in Regular U. S. service, etc.	250
	10,144

The detailed statement,* showing the several regiments and companies, the number of men in each company, and the names of the captains, is as follows:

Three Months' Service—1861

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
25	A	104	James McKnight
1	G	78	Geo. W. Alexander
5	H	77	Frank M. Cooley
5	Band	16	E. Ermentrout, Leader
7	C	76	Isaac Schroeder
7	D	78	Geo. S. Herbst
7	G	77	A. F. Rightmyer
14	A	77	David A. Griffith
14	E	80	John C. Shearer
25	C	58	Henry Nagle
25	Band	17	John A. Hoch, Leader

Three Years' Service—1861-64

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
26	Band	13	Henry Grime, Leader
32	A	100	Jacob Lenhart, Jr.
32	D	115	Wm. Briner
32	F	100	Wash. Richards
36	I	33	Joseph G. Holmes (Berks and Lebanon counties)
43	F	38	R. B. Rickets, 1st Artillery
44	L	155	J. C. A. Hoffeditz
44	M	154	Thos. S. Richards
46	E	173	Cornelius Wise
46	Band	16	R. J. Stanley
48	D	40	Daniel Nagle
50	B	166	Hervey Herman
50	E	181	Wm. H. Dichtl
50	H	177	Thos. S. Brenholtz
53	A & B	27	Wm. S. Potts

* Prepared by the compiler of this history for the Historical Society of Berks County, and read at a regular meeting on Feb. 14, 1905.

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
55	B	191	John C. Shearer
59	K	33	Stephen H. Edgett
70	G	94	Geo. E. Clymer, 6th Cavalry
74	G	50	Wm. J. Bart (Berks and Adams counties)
80	L	64	C. C. McCormick (Berks and Northumberland counties)
88	A	197	Geo. W. Knabb
88	B	192	Henry A. Myers
88	H	196	David A. Griffith
88	Band	20	E. Ermentrout, Leader (Ring- gold)
93	B	185	John F. Arthur
93	G	183	A. C. Maitland
93	K	74	David C. Keller
96	G	31	Jas. M. Douden
104	B	50	Jacob W. Glase
104	H	195	Wm. F. Walter
	D	297	Geo. W. Durrell, Ind. Battery
152	K	25	Henry Ungerer
181	H	16	A. M. Halberstadt
182	H	76	Geo. F. Cooke, 21st Cavalry

Nine Months' Service—1862-63

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
128	A	99	L. Heber Smith
128	B	93	Wm. McNall
128	E	98	Wm. H. Andrews
128	H	76	John Kennedv
128	I	89	Richard H. Jones
128	K	88	Geo. Newkirk
151	E	93	Jacob S. Graft
151	G	83	Levi M. Gerhart
151	H	83	Wm. K. Boltz
151	I	100	Wm. L. Gray
151	K	101	Jas. W. Weida

Volunteer Militia of 1862

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
2	G	70	F. S. Bickley
11	E	104	Chas. H. Hunter
11	I	95	N. M. Eisenhower
20	G	70	Wm. Geiger
20	H	45	Samuel Harner
20	I	92	Frederick S. Boas
*	..	67	Samuel L. Young

Drafted Militia of 1862—9 mos.

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
167	A	113	Jonathan Sec
167	B	105	Chas. Melcher
167	C	102	Peter Y. Edelman
167	D	113	Samuel A. Haines
167	E	101	H. H. Miller
167	F	100	Josiah Groh
167	G	114	William A. Schall
167	H	105	A. H. Schaeffer
167	I	111	J. M. Shollenberger
167	K	105	Edw. F. Reed
179	I	99	Amos Drenkel
179	K	95	John B. Wagoner

Emergency Troops—1863

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
31	H	63	David A. Griffith
42	A	98	Wm. F. Walter
42	B	91	Samuel Harner
42	C	103	John E. Arthur
42	D	95	Wm. D. Smith
42	E	83	Jno. McKnight
42	F	79	Bently H. Smith
42	G	96	Samuel A. Haines
42	H	90	John Obold
42	I	91	Edw. Bailey

*Ind. Cavalry

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
42	K	65	Jacob Deppen
48	G	95	Jos. G. Holmes
48	I	79	Aug. C. Greth
53	A	86	R. L. Jones
53	B	75	Jacob Lehman
*	..	149	W. C. Ermentrout

One Hundred Days' Service—1864

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
194	I	84	H. E. Quimby
195	A	85	H. D. Markley
195	B	93	H. Maltzberger
196	I	95	G. S. Rowbotham

One Year's Service—1864-65

Regt.	Co.	Men	Captain
83	I	84	R. W. McCartney (Berks and Dauphin counties)
192	F	97	John Teed
195	A	96	H. D. Markley
198	D	98	Isaac Schroeder
198	G	99	Wm. L. Guinther
205	B	104	Jos. G. Holmes
205	E	104	Wm. F. Walter
205	H	111	F. Schmehl
213	D	102	J. W. Kennedy

Surgeons from County in Civil War

The following medical practitioners of Berks county were engaged in the Civil war, and the statement shows the regiment with which they were connected and the district of the county where they resided.

33d Regt.—Dr. John B. Griesemer, Exeter, Surgeon
34th Regt.—Dr. Harrison T. Witman, Reading, Asst. Surgeon
47th Regt.—Dr. John H. Sheetz, Reading, Asst. Surgeon
48th Regt.—Dr. Charles T. Reber, Reading, Asst. Surgeon
73d Regt.—Dr. Jeremiah S. Trexler, Kutztown, Asst. Surgeon
75th Regt.—Dr. Manoah S. Long, Longswamp, Asst. Surgeon
76th Regt.—Dr. Erasmus R. Scholl, Reading, Surgeon
108th Regt.—Dr. Hiester M. Nagle, Reading, Surgeon
141st Regt.—Dr. Wellington G. Byerle, Bernville, Asst. Surgeon
154th Regt.—Dr. John M. Hoffman, Spring, Surgeon
154th Regt.—Dr. Elias C. Kitchen, Amity, Surgeon
166th Regt.—Dr. Alexander H. Witman, Reading, Asst. Surgeon
167th Regt.—Dr. Daniel T. Batdorf, Bethel, Asst. Surgeon
U. S. Navy—Dr. Jonathan Bertolotte, Surgeon

THREE MONTHS' SERVICE—1861

RINGGOLD LIGHT ARTILLERY.—The first troops to respond to the President's call were the Ringgold Light Artillery of Reading; the Logan Guards of Lewistown; the Washington Artillery and the National Light Infantry of Pottsville; and the Allen Rifles of Allentown.

On Jan. 21, 1861, Maj.-Gen. William H. Keim (then Surveyor-General of Pennsylvania, from Reading), with characteristic sagacity, had advised Captain McKnight that the services of his company would probably soon be needed, and counseled him to hold them in readiness for immediate service. From that time till April 16th, almost daily drills were practised. On the 22d of February, they were in readiness to obey marching orders. The dis-

patch announcing the attack on Fort Sumter found the company at drill at some distance from the city.* The effect was electrical, and all were impatient to move at once to the defense of the flag.



CAPT. JAMES MCKNIGHT

On the morning of the 16th of April, marching orders were received from Governor Curtin; and, on the afternoon of that day, the company was taken on the Lebanon Valley railroad to Harrisburg, where it arrived at 8 o'clock in the evening. The company numbered 108 men, fully armed and equipped as light artillery. On reporting at the Executive Office, the Secretary of War telegraphed that the company be forwarded by the earliest train, but this order was countermanded by the Secretary of the Commonwealth later in the day.

The five companies named were mustered into the service of the United States at Harrisburg for three months, and departed for Washington by railroad on the 18th of April, at 9 o'clock a. m. They arrived at Baltimore at 1 o'clock p. m., being under the necessity of marching two miles through the city, from Bolton to Camden station. On leaving the cars, a battalion was formed in the following order: 4th Artillery (regulars); Logan Guards; Allen Rifles, of Allentown; Washington Artillery and National Light Infantry, of Pottsville; with the Ringgold Artillery bringing up the rear. As the column was forming near Bolton station, the police of Baltimore appeared in large force, headed by Marshal Kane, and followed by a mob which at once commenced an attack upon the volunteers, countenanced by a portion of the police, who had been sent to give safe conduct through the city. Orders were given to the men to preserve their temper and make no reply to anything that should be said to them. At the command "forward," the mob commenced hooting, jeering and yelling, and proclaimed, with oaths, that the troops should not pass through their city to fight the South.

* Ind. Artillery

* Poor-house Farm in Shillington.

Arriving near the center of the city, certain regular troops filed off toward Fort McHenry, leaving the volunteers to pursue their way through the city as well as they could. At this juncture, the mob were excited to a perfect frenzy, breaking the line of the police, and pushing through the files of men, in an attempt to break the column. Every insult that could be heaped upon the troops was offered, but no word of reply was elicited. The officers and men marched steadily on toward Camden station. At every step, the mob increased till it numbered thousands of most determined and desperate men.

As the volunteers were boarding the train at the station, the angry mob hurled a shower of bricks, stones and clubs into their disorganized ranks, fortunately, however, inflicting only slight injuries. In the midst of the confusion, an attempt was made to detach the engine from the train and run it away, but this was prevented by the determined character of the engineer and his assistants, who drew revolvers and threatened to shoot any who dared to do so. At length, amidst the demoniac yells of the crowd, the train moved off, carrying the volunteers safely beyond the reach of their desperate assailants. They arrived in Washington at 7 o'clock in the evening. Arms, ammunition and equipments were furnished and the work of barricading the Capitol was commenced immediately. Squads of the Rebel soldiers were then drilling on the opposite side of the Potomac river in full view of the Capitol. It having been ascertained on the 23d of April that an attempt would be made to capture Washington by way of the arsenal and the navy-yard, the "Ringgold Artillerists" were ordered to report to Captain Dahlgreen at the navy-yard, and three twelve-pound howitzers were assigned to them. Excepting a detachment of twelve men, detailed to guard the "Short Bridge," the entire command was required to man these guns. On the 25th, a sergeant and six men were detailed to serve as a guard on the steamer "Powhatan," which was dispatched to make a reconnoissance down the Potomac for the purpose of searching for obstructions and of ascertaining if forts were being erected along the river. On the 26th, the company were ordered to duty at the Capitol: and on the 15th of May, the Secretary of War assigned them to duty at the Washington Arsenal, where they remained till the expiration of their term of service, excepting a short interval, when they were detailed to mount guns in the forts about Washington. They were mustered out at Harrisburg. They had been classified as Company A, of the 25th Regiment. Edward P. Pearson, Esq., of Reading, was Adjutant of the Regiment; he subsequently became an officer in the regular army and served for many years with great distinction.

Col. A. C. Buell, in his book, entitled "The Cannoneer, Recollections of Service in the Army of the Potomac by a detached volunteer in the Regular

Army," published the following interesting information about this distinguished company:

Speaking of the "Stolidity of the Pennsylvania Dutch," history records some manifestations of it that are admirable. For example, there was a battery in the Civil war which entered the Union service as "The Ringgold Artillery of Reading" and its commander was Capt. James McKnight. It was the first volunteer artillery organization to reach Washington in April, 1861. At the end of its three months' service, it re-enlisted in a body for three years and was mustered into the regular army as Battery M, 5th U. S. Artillery, being the only volunteer organization transferred bodily to the regular army in all our history. Its composition may be inferred from the names of its sergeants in 1864 when I was personally acquainted with it. They were as follows: Daniel Yoder, Philip Weidner, William Beckhardt, Joseph Gerhardt and Frederick Volkman. Of its 107 enlisted men in the Valley Campaign of 1864, 84 were Pennsylvania Dutchmen from Berks, Schuylkill and Lehigh—all native Americans—12 Americans of English descent, and 11 Irishmen, one of whom, Patrick Flynn Hunt, late of Templemore, County Tipperary, was acting sergeant on temporary detail from Battery E. Battery M served all through the war in the 6th Corps. At Cedar Creek it was in line with Getty's (2d) Division of that Corps and took the butt end of the Confederate attack in the first attempt of the Union forces to stop the rout in the early stages of that dramatic battle. In its first position it lost one gun, a lieutenant and 9 men, the gun however being retaken by the 10th Vermont Infantry. In its second position the whole battery was taken by Kershaw's South Carolina Brigade and almost instantly retaken by part of the Old Vermont Brigade in a rough-and-tumble, which resulted among other things in the killing or disabling of 19 men with the bayonet alone, few shots being fired. Out of this last motion, Battery M emerged with 2 guns and 27 men fit for duty who at once resumed their fire with double causter. This remnant was commanded by Sergeant Daniel Yoder, Captain McKnight being at that moment acting Chief of Artillery of the Corps, and the remaining lieutenant (Henry M. Baldwin) having been killed in the previous struggle. After the battle, Gen. Horatio Wright complimented Captain McKnight on the behavior of his battery in the presence of the few men that remained. Said he, "Your Pennsylvania Dutchmen don't seem to know when they are whipped." To which the Captain replied, "Don't know when they are whipped? By God, General, most of them don't know when they are killed."

All the losses of Battery M at Cedar Creek were either killed or wounded, none were missing. Buell was a private when this happened, but he became a colonel afterward.

1ST REGIMENT.—The 1st Regiment was organized at Harrisburg on April 20th. In pursuance of orders, it performed duty at several places in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia till July 23d, when it returned to Harrisburg, and was there honorably discharged on the 27th. During its service it did not participate in any battles; but it accomplished much good by checking any movement on the part of the Rebels in arms along the borders. It included Company G, which was recruited at Reading, and mustered into service on April 20, 1861.

5TH REGIMENT.—The 5th Regiment was organized at Camp Curtin (Harrisburg) on April 21st. It performed guard duty mostly at Baltimore, Washington and Alexandria. It was at the latter place during the disastrous battle of Bull Run, in which the brigade (to which it had been trans-



ferred) participated. It was discharged at Harrisburg on July 25th.

Company H was recruited at Reading. It was mustered into service on April 20, 1861. Dr. E. R. Scholl, of Reading, was the regimental surgeon.

Reading City Band was attached to this regiment. It comprised sixteen men (six from Lebanon), with Emanuel Ermentrout as leader. Left Reading on May 22, 1861, for Washington, via Harrisburg and Baltimore, and was mustered in there on the 23d. Remained there until the 29th and then went to Alexandria, where it was in active service until July 21st. Then it was ordered to Harrisburg and there mustered out on July 26th. The members from Reading returned home.

7TH REGIMENT.—The 7th Regiment was organized and mustered into service at Camp Curtin on April 22d. It was encamped over a month at Chambersburg. On June 8th it moved southwardly. It was stationed at Williamsport on the 19th. On July 2d, it began the march to Martinsburg. On the way, it confiscated the contents of an extensive flour-mill (a large amount of grain and flour and one hundred and fifty barrels of whiskey), the owner having been a captain in the Rebel army. Shortly afterward, it was encamped at Charlestown, where it remained until ordered to Harrisburg, and it was mustered out of service on July 29th. Three companies were recruited in Berks county, C, G, and D; the first at Friedensburg; the second at Pleasantville; and the third at Reading.

14TH REGIMENT.—The 14th Regiment was organized at Camp Curtin on April 30th. Richards McMichael was elected lieutenant-colonel, and Joseph A. McLean major. Both were from Reading. It was encamped at Camp Johnston, in Lancaster, till June 3d, and subsequently it marched to Chambersburg, Hagerstown, Sharpsburg, Martinsburg, Bunker's Hill and Harper's Ferry, doing picket and guard duty, and making various expeditions to encounter the enemy. Whilst at the latter place, the term of enlistment expired and it was ordered to Harrisburg. On its way, it encamped and remained two weeks at Carlisle, where it was mustered out of service Aug. 7th. It included two companies from Berks county: A, recruited at Reading and mustered in on April 27th; and E, recruited at Womelsdorf, and mustered in on April 24th.

25TH REGIMENT.—Company C of Reading was also in the 25th Regiment, in the three months' service with Company A. It was recruited at Reading out of the surplus men of the Ringgold Light Artillery and seventeen men of the National Light Infantry of Pottsville, and mustered into service on April 18, 1861. The regiment had been organized at Harrisburg. It was mustered out of service on Aug. 1st.

Regimental Band.—The regimental band of the 25th Regiment was engaged in the three months' service, having been mustered in at Washington,

in April, 1861, and mustered out at Harrisburg, in July, 1861. It comprised sixteen members under the leadership of John A. Hoch, fourteen of them taken from the Ringgold Band. The other two were from Pottstown.

THREE YEARS' SERVICE—1861-64

The insurrection having become too powerful to be suppressed by the first display of military authority, the President issued a second proclamation, calling upon the States to furnish two hundred thousand men who were to be enlisted for three years. The quota of men from Pennsylvania was soon filled by the patriotic impulses of her people. Companies from Berks county were in the following regiments:

26TH REGIMENT.—*The Bernville Band* with Henry Grime as leader, and numbering thirteen men, was mustered into the service at Bladensburg, Md., on Sept. 16, 1861, as regimental band of the 26th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, and attached to Hooker's 1st Brigade. It remained in camp at Bladensburg about two months; then it moved to Budd's Ferry, in Lower Potomac, on Maryland Shore, and continued there all winter. During the latter part of April, it joined McClellan's army at Fortress Monroe, and was engaged in the Peninsular campaign, commencing at Yorktown and ending at Harrison's Landing. It was mustered out of service at Harrison's Landing on Aug. 8, 1862, by reason of an Act of Congress passed to dispense with regimental bands. The men returned to Philadelphia, where they were paid off and sent home.

32D REGIMENT.—The 32d Regiment included companies A, D and F from Berks county, and was mustered into service at Harrisburg on July 27, 1861, after having remained at Easton in camp for two months. The regiment was at Washington, Tennallytown, and Langley until March 10, 1862, when it joined the Army of the Potomac. It participated in its marches to and from Richmond until February, 1863, having been engaged in the battles of Gaines' Mill, Hall's Hill, Antietam and Fredericksburg.

Then it was transferred to the defenses of Washington and became a part of the 22d Army Corps, where it remained until January, 1864, when it was ordered to duty in West Virginia under General Sickel. Afterward it was at Martinsburg and Harper's Ferry until April, then proceeded to the Kanawha Valley and participated in the engagements at Princetown and Meadow Bluff. On May 22d, it marched to Millville. While there its term of service expired, and then it proceeded to Philadelphia, via Pittsburg, where it was mustered out of service on June 17, 1864.

36TH REGIMENT.—The 36th Regiment was composed of companies recruited in several counties east of the Alleghany Mountains. Company I was made up of men recruited in Berks and Lebanon counties. The men from Berks county numbered



thirty-three, and were recruited at Reading. The regiment was mustered into service July 27, 1861. It was not in any fighting until the latter part of June, 1862, when it was engaged in the battle of Gaines' Mill, occupying the left of the line. Its next engagement was at Charles City Cross Roads, June 30, 1862. It passed through seven days of fighting, and upon mustering the regiment only two hundred men were present to answer to their names. It was also engaged in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg and the Wilderness. Nearly the entire regiment was captured in the last battle, and the men were imprisoned at Andersonville. The regiment was mustered out of service June 16, 1864, at Philadelphia.

43D REGIMENT.—In Battery F, of the 43d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers (1st Artillery), recruited in Schuylkill county, there were included thirty-eight men from Berks county. It was organized at Philadelphia in June, 1861, for three years' service, and mustered out at Harrisburg on June 9, 1865.

The Battery participated in the following battles: Winchester, second Bull Run, Chantilly, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Bristoe Station, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Tolopotomoy, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and Deep Bottom.

44TH REGIMENT.—The 44th Regiment (1st Cavalry) was recruited in a number of counties, Company L from men of Berks, Lebanon and Lancaster counties, and Company M from men of Berks county. Both were recruited at Reading.

Company L was mustered into service as an independent company on July 30, 1861, and stationed at Baltimore for five months; and Company M on Aug. 5, 1861, and stationed at same place until Oct. 3d. On Jan. 7th, these companies joined their regiment and moved with the army toward Manassas. They were engaged in the battles of Strasburg, Woodstock, Harrisonburg and Fredericksburg during the year 1862; and in 1863, in the battles of Brandy Station, Beverly Ford and Aldie. They were concerned in Sheridan's raid upon Richmond, during the spring of 1864, in which they encountered the enemy in a number of engagements, and in the following summer they were engaged in fighting the enemy at Saint Mary's Church, Malvern Hill, Gravel Hill, and Ream's Station. On Aug. 29th they were encamped on the Jerusalem Plank Road, near the left of the army. Their term of service having expired, they withdrew from the front on Sept. 1st, and proceeded to Philadelphia where they were mustered out of service Sept. 9, 1864.

46TH REGIMENT.—The 46th Regiment was organized at Harrisburg on Sept. 1, 1861, and included Company E, recruited at Reading. It was ordered to Harper's Ferry and placed under the command of General Banks. Its first conflict was at Winchester, where for five hours it held its position with great coolness and bravery whilst retreating toward the Potomac before Gen. Stonewall

Jackson. On Aug. 8, 1862, it was in the battle of Cedar Mountain, and on Sept. 17th in the battle of Antietam. In May, 1863, it participated in a fierce engagement near Chancellorsville; and in July it took a prominent part in the battle of Gettysburg, occupying the extreme right of the line on the 3d.

After the withdrawal of Lee from Pennsylvania, the regiment was attached to the Army of the Tennessee under General Rosecrans. In January, 1864, it proceeded to Pennsylvania on a veteran furlough, and the greater part of the officers and men re-enlisted for three years.

Among the re-enlisted men in the regiment, there was a young man, Henry Weidensaul, a native of Morgantown, in Berks county. He entered the regiment when *fourteen* years old and participated in the battles of Winchester, Cedar Mountain, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Resaca, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain and Peach Tree Creek. He was wounded at Cedar Mountain, taken prisoner, and confined in Libby Prison for five weeks. He was also wounded at Peach Tree Creek and Atlanta. On July 1, 1863, he was *seventeen* years old, and the Keystone State claimed him to be the youngest veteran soldier in the service.

Upon recruiting its ranks, the regiment rejoined the army at Chattanooga, and participated in the Atlanta campaign under General Sherman in his great march to the sea. After nearly four years of faithful service, it was mustered out on July 16, 1865, near Alexandria, Virginia.

Birdsboro Band.—This band was mustered into service for three years on Aug. 27, 1861, as the regimental band of the regiment; but discharged on Aug. 16, 1862, in pursuance of an order dispensing with regimental bands.

48TH REGIMENT.—Company D of this regiment was recruited at Pottsville, in Schuylkill county, mustered into service in October, 1861, and mustered out July 17, 1865. Forty of the men were from Hamburg, in Berks county. The regiment was in the battles of Antietam and Second Bull Run. It was prominent in the Petersburg campaign, having exploded the great mine.

The Port Clinton Artillery was connected with this regiment. Included with the battery there were twenty-five men from Reading and Leesport, accredited to Schuylkill county. It was mustered in May, 1861.

John D. Bertolette, of Reading, was the adjutant; and Dr. Charles T. Reber, surgeon.

50TH REGIMENT.—The 50th Regiment included three companies from Berks county, B, E and H, which were recruited at Reading. It was organized at Harrisburg on Sept. 25, 1861. Capt. Thomas Brenholtz, of Company H, was selected as lieutenant-colonel. The regiment proceeded to Washington on Oct. 2d, and on the 9th to Annapolis, where it was assigned to Stevens' Brigade, which was then fitting out for an expedition to South Carolina. On Oct. 19th, the regiment embarked upon transports, Companies B and E on the

"Winfield Scott" and Company H on the "Ocean Queen." On the night of Nov. 1st, a heavy gale was encountered off Cape Hatteras, and the "Winfield Scott," an unseaworthy craft, was in imminent peril. Her masts were cut away, the freight and camp equipage were thrown overboard, a portion of her officers and crew deserted her and everything was given up for lost. She was finally saved through the superhuman efforts of the soldiers, who had been left to their fate without food or water. The regiment went into camp on the island at Hilton Head and was employed in building fortifications. On Dec. 6th, it proceeded to Beaufort and there experienced its first skirmish with the enemy. It participated in the battle of Coosaw on Jan. 1, 1862. In General Hunter's demonstration against Charleston, Lieutenant-Colonel Brenholtz and six companies took a prominent part, driving the enemy from a railroad bridge which spanned a stream near Pocotaligo.

The regiment remained near Beaufort till July 12th; then proceeded to Fortress Monroe. Subsequently it was engaged in the first and second days' fights at Bull Run. Brenholtz commanded the regiment. He was one of the wounded in the second day's fight. On Aug. 1st, it participated in the battle of Chantilly, and several weeks later in the battle of Antietam. Subsequently it was moved to Kentucky and participated in the siege of Vicksburg. There Brenholtz, whilst gallantly leading his men before the enemy's works, was mortally wounded. His fall was greatly lamented at Reading, where he had been a successful teacher in the public schools. Much of the credit which the organization had acquired was due to his excellent qualities as a soldier. No braver man ever led in battle, and upon his death the service lost one of its most valued leaders. In August, only eighty of the regiment were present for duty, and nearly all had chills and fever. The other men of the regiment were in hospitals suffering from wounds or malaria. In October and November, 1863, it took part in engagements, at Blue Springs, Lenoir Station, and Knoxville.

Nearly the entire regiment re-enlisted on January 1, 1864. During January it was marched to Nicholasville, a distance of two hundred miles, in ten days. Many of the men were barefooted and walked through the snow. In February, they proceeded to Harrisburg on a veteran furlough, and visited their homes. In March, the regiment encamped at Annapolis. On May 6th, it was engaged in the battle of the Wilderness, and on the 9th, in the battle near Spottsylvania Court-House. Among the killed was Captain Cleveland, of Company H. Three days afterward the regiment had another desperate encounter, in which the men had a struggle hand to hand. Adjutant Kendall, three sergeants and twenty-five privates were taken prisoners. From the Ny river to the North Anna, and thence to Cold Harbor, the regiment was en-

gaged almost daily. At Cold Harbor, on June 2, 1864, it occupied the front line and suffered severely. Shortly afterward, it lay in line before Petersburg. On June 18th, Captain Lantz, of Company E, and several men were killed. It then performed picket duty during July and participated in the siege and great explosion of the mine. During August it was engaged in almost continuous fighting. It remained at the front during September, October and November, when it went into winter quarters immediately before Petersburg.

The Union lines began to close in on the Rebel works on April 1, 1865. The regiment was engaged during the operations of the 2d and 3d, and it was among the first of the regiments to enter Petersburg upon its fall. It moved to City Point on April 15th, and thence by boat to Washington, where it remained till June 30th. Upon the recommendation of Lieutenant-General Grant, this regiment was ordered to represent the infantry of the army upon the occasion of laying the cornerstone of the national monument at Gettysburg on July 4, 1865. From Gettysburg it went into camp near Georgetown, where it was mustered out of service on July 31st.

Henry T. Kendall, who was Adjutant, became Captain of Company H in January, 1865.

53D REGIMENT.—Company B of this regiment included twenty-three men from Birdsboro; and Company A, four men from Boyertown. It participated in many battles.

55TH REGIMENT.—The 55th Regiment was recruited during the summer and autumn of 1861, and included Company B from Berks county, recruited at Robesonia. It was organized at Harrisburg, and in November proceeded to Fortress Monroe. It experienced some service near Framp-ton in October, 1862. For a year afterward, it performed picket duty at Port Royal Ferry. On Jan. 1, 1864, the major part of the men re-enlisted for three years, and were given a furlough. In March, the regiment returned to South Carolina, and in April was stationed at Gloucester Point, opposite Yorktown. Here it was assigned to the 3d Brigade, 3d Division, 10th Corps, Army of the James, and participated in the movements and engagements of this corps under the command of General Butler. It reached Richmond on April 25th, and encamped near by, performing fatigue and guard duty till the latter part of July; then it was stationed at different points surrounding Petersburg till it was mustered out of service on Aug. 30, 1865.

William G. Moore, of Womelsdorf, was Captain of Company D in this Regiment, from July 13, 1864, to June 10, 1865.

59TH REGIMENT.—The 59th Regiment (2d Cavalry) included thirty-three men who were recruited at Reading, in March, 1862, and became part of Company K, under command of Captain Chauncey. It experienced much severe marching and partici-

pated in a number of battles, prominent among them being Bull Run, Chantilly, Gettysburg, and the Wilderness campaign. It was present at the surrender at Appomattox and participated in the grand review at Washington on May 23, 1865. It was mustered out of service at Cloud's Mill, Va., on July 13, 1865.

William F. Dougherty, of Berks county, was captain for a time; and Stephen H. Edgett from March, 1865, to June, 1865.

70TH REGIMENT.—The 70th Regiment (6th Cavalry) was composed of Philadelphia men, excepting Company G, which was recruited at Reading, in July, 1861, under command of Capt. George E. Clymer. It participated in the Peninsular campaign, and in various engagements, the most prominent being Antietam and Gettysburg. Subsequently it took part in the Virginia campaign, and in the famous raid by General Sheridan. It was also present at the surrender at Appomattox, and participated in the grand review at Washington. It was mustered out of service at Louisville, Ky., Aug. 7, 1865.

There were twenty men from the county in other companies of this regiment: twelve in Company F; one in Company H; four in Company I; two in Company K; and one in Company M.

Dr. G. S. Engler, of Muhlenberg township, was the regimental assistant surgeon.

74TH REGIMENT.—Company G, of this regiment, was composed of men recruited in Berks and Adams counties, during February, 1865, for a service of one year. It was attached in March to this regiment, originally organized in 1861. It was engaged in guard duty at Beverly, Clarksburg and Parkersburg, from April to August 29th, when it was mustered out of service at Clarksburg. It was disbanded at Pittsburg.

80TH REGIMENT.—The 80th Regiment (7th Cavalry) included some men who were recruited in Berks county, and mustered into service with Company L. It participated in various engagements with the Army of the Tennessee, where it had been ordered to service. In March, 1865, it marched under General Wilson across the Gulf States, and in the beginning of April participated in the battles of Plantersville and Selma, Ala. At the latter place, the regiment led in the assault upon the works and the conduct of the men was highly meritorious. Its last engagement was near Columbus, on April 16, 1865. It was then stationed at Macon, Ga., from April 20th to August 13th, when it was mustered out of service. This company was recruited in Berks and Northumberland counties, and was mustered out Aug. 23, 1865.

88TH REGIMENT.—This regiment included three companies, recruited in Berks county, A, B, and H. It was mustered into service at Philadelphia in October, 1861, and then ordered to Washington. It performed guard duty in that vicinity until May, 1862. Subsequently, it participated in the following battles: Thoroughfare Gap, Bull Run, Antie-

tam, Fredericksburg, Cedar Mountain, Second Bull Run, Chantilly, Gettysburg, South Mountain, Gainesville, Wilderness, Chancellorsville, North Anna, Tolopotomoy, Mine Run, Petersburg, Weldon Railroad, Spottsylvania and Bethesda Church. It continued in active operations until General Lee surrendered, when it proceeded to Washington, where it was mustered out of service on June 30, 1865.

David A. Griffith, of Reading, was major of the regiment from September to December, 1862.

Joseph A. McLean, of Reading, was the lieutenant-colonel until he was killed at the battle of Bull Run on Aug. 30, 1862. McLean Post, No. 16, G. A. R., of Reading, was named after him in 1866.

Ringgold Band.—The regimental band of the 88th Regiment was the "Ringgold" from Reading, with Emanuel Ermentrout, as leader, and twenty men. It was mustered into service at Philadelphia on Aug. 30, 1861, and mustered out at Manassas Junction on June 21, 1862, pursuant to a general order dispensing with the services of bands of music.

93D REGIMENT.—This regiment was organized at Lebanon, Pa., in October, 1861, and included two companies, B and G, and part of Company K, from Berks county. It proceeded to Virginia and participated in the following battles: Williamsburg, Yorktown, Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, Marye's Heights, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Opequan, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek. After the surrender of General Lee, it marched to Danville to co-operate with Sherman for the defeat of General Johnston. After remaining in camp there for several weeks, it proceeded to Washington, and was mustered out of service on June 27, 1865.

John E. Arthur, of Reading, was lieutenant-colonel from July to November, 1862; David C. Keller, major, from September, 1864, to December, 1864, when he was appointed lieutenant-colonel, and on April 2, 1865, brevet colonel.

W. A. H. Lewis was adjutant from October 1861, to August, 1862; and John B. Dewees from March to June 27, 1865, when mustered out as sergeant-major.

96TH REGIMENT.—The 96th Regiment was recruited mostly in Schuylkill county. Some men from Hamburg and of Berks county were included in Company G. It was mustered into service on Sept. 23, 1861, at Pottsville, and participated in various engagements in the Peninsula, at Gettysburg, in the Wilderness campaign, and in the Shenandoah Valley. It was mustered out of service in West Philadelphia on Oct. 21, 1864.

104TH REGIMENT.—The greater part of Companies B, and H in this regiment consisted of men from Berks county; and among the field officers was John M. Gries, from Reading, chosen as



major. During 1862, the regiment participated in the siege of Yorktown, and in the battles of Savage Station and Fair Oaks, in the Peninsular campaign. In the beginning of 1863, it was ordered to South Carolina, and there took part in the siege of Charleston and the capture of Fort Wagner. During August, 1864, it was stationed in Florida, guarding a line of railroad from Jacksonville to Baldwin. Thence it proceeded north to Alexandria, where it performed duty in the fortifications on the southern side of the Potomac river, till its term of service expired. It was mustered out of service at Philadelphia on Sept. 30, 1864. Some of the men from Berks county re-enlisted in this regiment. There were veterans and recruits sufficient to form a battalion of five companies. Its principal service afterward was in the siege of Petersburg, participating in the assault on the city, April 3 and 4, 1865. It was mustered out of service at Portsmouth on Aug. 25, 1865.

DURELL'S BATTERY.—This was the famous Independent Battery D, commonly known as "Durell's." It was organized at Doylestown on Sept. 24, 1861, and proceeded to Washington on Nov. 6th, where it was equipped as a six-gun battery. Afterward two additional pieces were provided. It had a very active career, and participated in the following battles: Kelly's Ford, Bristoe Station, Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam, Sharpsburg, Sulphur Springs, Fredericksburg, Vicksburg, Wilderness, and the siege of Petersburg. It was mustered out of service on June 13, 1865.

152D REGIMENT.—Company K, of this regiment, known as the 3d Artillery, included twenty-five men from Berks county. The regiment was originally organized for special duty at Fortress Monroe, but it performed a large share of field service. It had the reputation of being remarkably well drilled in every branch of artillery service, as well as in infantry and naval service. All the field and nearly all of the line officers of the 188th Regiment were promoted from its ranks, and the excellent discipline and soldierly bearing of the command were frequent subjects of remark and commendation by its superior officers. The regiment was mustered in at Philadelphia; and nearly all the companies (including Company K) were mustered out at Fortress Monroe on Nov. 9, 1865.

181ST REGIMENT.—Sixteen veterans from Berks county were enlisted in Company H of this regiment upon its re-organization in February, 1864, having previously been in the six months' service. It was in the Shenandoah Valley campaign under Generals Sigel, Hunter, and Sheridan, and participated in numerous battles, including New Market, Piedmont, Quaker's Church, Liberty, Salem, Snicker's Gap and Gordonville; also in various battles during the concluding campaign before Petersburg, the regiment occupying the extreme left. It was mustered out of service July 13, 1865, at Cloud's Mills, Virginia.

182D REGIMENT.—In January, 1864, authority was given to re-organize this regiment for three years (as the 21st Cavalry) and over half of Company H were enlisted at Reading. About the middle of May, the regiment was ordered to Washington (from camp near Chambersburg) and thence sent to join the Army of the Potomac. It participated in the battles of Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Weldon Railroad, Poplar Spring Church, Boydton Road, and Bellefield. It was mustered out of service at Lynchburg, Va., on July 8, 1865.

NINE MONTHS' SERVICE, 1862-63

128TH REGIMENT.—This regiment was recruited in response to the proclamation of the Governor, calling for troops to serve for nine months, issued July 21, 1862. Companies A, B, E, H, I and K were recruited in Berks county. The regiment rendezvoused at Camp Curtin, and was mustered into the service from the 13th to the 15th of August. The majority of the regimental officers were selected from the companies named. On the 16th of August, it was ordered to Washington, moving under the command of Capt. William H. Andrews, of Company E, because no officers had been as yet commissioned. Soon after its arrival at the capital, it crossed the Potomac, and was encamped on Arlington Heights for a week. On the 21st, it moved to Fairfax Seminary; and on the 29th, to Fort Woodbury, where for a week (during the fierce fighting at Bull Run and Chantilly) it was incessantly engaged in felling timber and erecting fortifications. On Sept. 6th, the regiment, in light marching orders, recrossed the Potomac and entered upon the Maryland campaign. At Frederick City, on the 14th, it was assigned to Crawford's brigade, of Williams' division, Mansfield's corps.

It was engaged in active service and participated in the battles of Antietam and the Wilderness. In the latter battle, the regiment was surrounded by the enemy and the greater part of the officers and men were taken prisoners to Richmond. After the battle, the remainder of the regiment (reduced to 172) marched to Stafford Court-House, where its term of service expired. It was ordered to Harrisburg, and there mustered out on May 19, 1863.

Captain Smith, of Company A, was promoted to lieutenant-colonel on Feb. 1, 1863. Joel B. Wanner was major; James H. Gentzler, adjutant, and Dr. J. B. Potteiger, assistant surgeon of the regiment.

151ST REGIMENT.—Companies E, G, H, K, and part of I, were recruited in Berks county, the remaining part of Company I in Schuylkill county. They rendezvoused at Camp Curtin during September, 1862, where a regimental organization was effected. On Nov. 26th, the regiment moved for Washington, and, upon its arrival, proceeded to Arlington Heights. On Dec. 3d, it marched to Alexandria, and thence proceeded by rail to Union Mills.

About the middle of February, the regiment was transferred to Belle Plain, where the men suffered much from sickness and exposure. Just previous to the opening of the Chancellorsville campaign, the regiment, with the 3d Division, was sent to Port Conway, on the Lower Rappahannock.

Before marching to the battle-field at Chancellorsville, it was twice subjected to a vigorous shelling from the enemy posted on the opposite shore. During Sunday (the 3d) and Monday (the 4th) the regiment occupied a position on the picket line, between the Ely and Germania Ford roads, where it confronted the enemy. Considerable sickness prevailed here, the morning report at one time showing 160 on the sick list.

The march to Gettysburg commenced on the 12th of June. The right wing of the army (composed of the 1st and 11th Corps under General Reynolds) made a forced march of 105 miles in three days, throwing itself suddenly between Lee's army (which was moving down the Shenandoah Valley) and Washington. At Broad Run, they halted for the enemy to develop his plans. As the enemy pushed on into Pennsylvania, Reynolds followed, and on the 1st of July his cavalry, under Buford, met the head of the enemy's columns, and immediately commenced the battle. The 1st Brigade (commanded by Col. Chapin Biddle) arrived upon the field at half-past 10 a. m., and took a position on the extreme left flank of the corps, the 151st Regiment under command of Lieutenant-Colonel McFarland, in the absence of Colonel Allen, holding the left of the brigade line. As it moved into position, it was saluted by the booming of cannon and the rattle of musketry.

The heroism displayed by the regiment in this battle was highly praiseworthy. It went into the fight with twenty-one officers and 466 men; of these two officers and 187 men were wounded, and 100 were missing, an aggregate loss of 367. Lieuts. Aaron S. Seaman and George A. Trexler were of the killed; Lieutenant-Colonel McFarland, Adj. Samuel T. Allen, Capt. George L. Stone and James W. Weida, and Lieuts. Benjamin F. Oliver, Thomas L. Moyer, Henry H. Merkle, William O. Blodget and Albert Yost were wounded; and Capt. William K. Boltz and William L. Gray, and Lieuts. James L. Reber and Charles P. Potts were taken prisoners. At 6 o'clock on the morning of the 6th, the regiment moved with the army, in pursuit of Lee, coming up with his rear-guard at Funkstown on the 12th, and his main body near Williamsport on the 14th. That night the enemy escaped. The regiment's term of service had now nearly expired. It was accordingly relieved from duty on the 19th, and returned to Harrisburg, where it was mustered out on the 27th.

Francis Parvin, of Berks county, was quartermaster of the regiment.

VOLUNTEER MILITIA—1862

When the Rebel army achieved its triumphs in the second battle of Bull Run, it hastened northward and commenced crossing the Potomac. The result of the struggle on the plains of Manassas was no sooner known than the helpless condition of Pennsylvania, which had been apparent from the first, became a subject of alarm. On Sept. 4th, Governor Curtin issued a proclamation, calling on the people to arm and prepare for defense. He recommended the immediate formation of companies and regiments throughout the commonwealth. On the 10th, the danger having become imminent, and the enemy being already in Maryland, he issued a general order, calling on all able-bodied men to enroll immediately for the defense of the State, and hold themselves in readiness to march upon an hour's notice: the following day he called for fifty thousand men. The people everywhere flew to arms, and moved promptly to the State capital.

On the 14th, the head of the Army of the Potomac met the enemy at South Mountain, and hurled him back through its passes; and on the evening of the 16th and on the 17th a fierce battle was fought at Antietam. In the meantime, the militia had rapidly concentrated at Hagerstown and Chambersburg. The enemy was defeated at Antietam, and retreated in confusion across the Potomac. The emergency having passed, the militia regiments were ordered to return to Harrisburg, and in accordance with the conditions on which they had been called into service, they were mustered out and disbanded on the 24th. The train on which the 20th Regiment was returning over the Cumberland Valley railroad collided, upon nearing Harrisburg, with a train passing in an opposite direction, by which four men were killed and thirty injured.

The following seven companies from Berks county were enlisted in this special service:

Company G, in 2d Regiment, organized Sept. 6-13, 1862, and discharged Sept. 23-25.

Companies E and I, in 11th Regiment, organized Sept. 12, 1862, and discharged Sept. 24-25. Charles A. Knoderer, of Reading, was the colonel of this regiment.

Companies G, H and I, in 20th Regiment, organized Sept. 18, 1862, and discharged Sept. 26-30.

An Independent Cavalry Company was organized Sept. 17, 1862, and discharged Sept. 27.

DRAFTED MILITIA OF 1862

During the year 1862, the military operations were conducted with such energy, and so many men were required, that volunteer companies were not sufficiently numerous to supply the increasing demands for troops. The government was therefore driven to the extreme measure of impressing men into service by drafting them for that purpose. Ten companies which constituted the 167th Regiment, and two companies, I and K, of the 179th Regiment, were composed of drafted men from Berks

county. They were mustered into service for nine months.

167TH REGIMENT.—This regiment was exclusively from Berks county, and was organized in November, 1862, with the following field officers: Charles A. Knoderer, colonel; DePuy Davis, lieutenant-colonel; Gustavus A. Worth, major. Soon after its organization, the regiment was ordered to Suffolk, Va. It was actively engaged in fatigue duty upon fortifications (in the planning of which Colonel Knoderer was an adept) and in reconnoitring and outpost duty. Late on the evening of Jan. 29, 1863, General Corcoran (who commanded a division under General Peck) moved with his column toward the Blackwater, and at Deserted Farm, seven miles out, encountered a strong force of the enemy, under Gen. Roger A. Pryor. Corcoran immediately made an attack, and a fierce night engagement ensued. The fighting was principally with artillery and the 167th Regiment was fearfully exposed to the enemy's fire. At the opening of the battle, Colonel Knoderer ordered his men to lie down, and fortunately few were injured; but the horses of the officers, with the exception of that of the adjutant, were all killed, and the Colonel himself received a mortal wound. The enemy was finally driven back and the command returned again to camp. Lieutenant-Colonel Davis succeeded to the command of the regiment, and was subsequently commissioned colonel. It participated in the desultory operations which were kept up until the beginning of April, when the right wing of the Rebel army under General Longstreet, numbering some forty thousand men, advanced upon the place and attacked it, but failed to carry it. He then laid siege to it, and constructed elaborate works for its reduction. For nearly a month, these operations were vigorously pushed; and for many days the bombardment of the fortifications was almost incessant; but so skillfully had they been planned, and so well constructed, that General Peck, with a force of only about a third of the number of the invading army, successfully repelled every attack, and finally compelled Longstreet to raise the siege. The 167th Regiment was actively employed in the defense throughout the siege, and rendered efficient service. Toward the close of June, and during the time of Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania, the regiment formed part of the command which was sent to demonstrate in the direction of Richmond, and upon its return was ordered to join the army of the Potomac, then in pursuit of Lee's army in Maryland. It formed a junction on the 15th of July, the day after the escape of the enemy across the Potomac, and was assigned to the 1st Brigade, 1st Division of the 1st Corps. With that corps, it participated in the pursuit of Lee beyond the Rappahannock, when, its term of service being about to expire, it was relieved at the front, and ordered to Reading, where, on Aug. 12, 1863, it was mustered out.

179TH REGIMENT.—This regiment included two companies, I and K, from the county of Berks. It was organized in companies at periods ranging from the 23d of October to the 6th of December, 1862, at Philadelphia and Harrisburg; and on the 8th of December a regimental organization was effected. Soon after its organization, it proceeded to Fortress Monroe and thence to Yorktown, where it formed part of the garrison at the fort, and was encamped within its walls. It did little else than garrison duty until the last of July, when it was called out to join in the movement made by General Dix up the Peninsula. During the march to White House and thence to Baltimore Cross Roads, the regiment was prompt and ready, and always well in hand. In the return march the 179th Regiment crowned its reputation as a first-class organization by being always promptly in its place, whilst other regiments were scattered for miles along the road.

Upon its return to camp, it was ascertained that Lee had invaded Pennsylvania, and though its term of service was about to expire, by the unanimous vote of the men by companies, their further services were tendered to Governor Curtin as long as he should need them for the defense of the State. This offer was accepted; but by the time the regiment had reached Washington, *en route* to the front, the Rebel army had retreated to Virginia. It was accordingly ordered to Harrisburg, where it was mustered out of service on July 27th.

EMERGENCY TROOPS—1863

The triumph of the Rebel army at Fredericksburg in December, 1862, and its success at Chancellorsville in May, 1863, emboldened its leader to again plan an invasion of the North. It becoming daily more evident that the enemy intended to cross the Potomac in force, the President on June 15th called for one hundred thousand men from Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland and West Virginia, to serve for a period of six months, unless sooner discharged; and of this number Pennsylvania was to furnish fifty thousand. Governor Curtin then issued a proclamation, calling upon all men capable of bearing arms to enroll themselves in military organizations and encourage all others to afford assistance toward protecting the State. In pursuance of this call, many troops were raised throughout the State. The citizens of Berks county responded promptly and raised sixteen companies of men; ten of which were formed into one regiment called the 42d; two of the 48th; three of the 53d; and one of the 31st. They were mustered into service in July and moved to the front, but so rapid were the movements of the armies, and the decisive battle of Gettysburg was fought so soon after the call for the militia, that the men had scarcely arrived in camp before the danger was over. The Rebel army made its escape on the 13th and 14th of July, and then the campaign was at end. But the militia was, however, held for some time after this, having been employed on various duty.

With the close of this raid, the Rebel invasion of 1863 ended. Further service was no longer required of the militia, and during the months of August and September the majority of the men were mustered out. With few exceptions, they were not brought into mortal conflict, but they, nevertheless, rendered most important service. They came forward at a moment when there was pressing need, and their presence gave great moral support to the Union army.

The 31st Regiment was organized at Harrisburg on June 30, 1863, with Capt. David A. Griffith, of Reading, as lieutenant-colonel, and mustered out on August 8th.

The 42d Regiment was organized at Reading on July 6th, with Dr. Charles H. Hunter, of Reading, as colonel; John E. Arthur, of Reading, as lieutenant-colonel; Bentley H. Smith, of Joanna, as major; and Frank R. Schmucker, Esq., of Reading, as adjutant; and mustered out on Aug. 11-12th, at Reading.

In the 48th, Frederick R. Fritz, of Reading, was lieutenant-colonel, and William W. Diehl, of Reading, major. It was organized at Reading on July 6th, and mustered out on Aug. 26th.

In the 53d, Israel C. Becker was adjutant, and Jeremiah D. Biting, quartermaster, both of Reading. It was organized at Reading on July 13th, and mustered out on Aug. 20th.

Enlisted in this service was the Independent Battery commanded by Capt. William C. Ermentrout. It was organized at Reading on July 3d, and mustered out Aug. 26th.

ONE HUNDRED DAYS' SERVICE—1864

Four companies from Berks county were in the one hundred days' service, having been enlisted in July, 1864:

194TH REGIMENT.—This regiment was recruited in ten counties of the State, Company I having been from Berks county. It was organized at Camp Curtin on July 22, 1864, with Richards McMichael, of Reading, as lieutenant-colonel. On the day of its organization, it moved to Baltimore. About the 1st of September, it moved to Camp Carroll, a mile southwest of the city, on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. Company I and five other companies of the regiment were stationed at various points in the city for provost duty. At the expiration of its term, it proceeded to Harrisburg, where, on the 6th of November, it was mustered out.

195TH REGIMENT.—This regiment was principally recruited in Lancaster county in July, 1864, to serve for a period of one hundred days. It included two companies, A and B, from Berks county. It was organized at Camp Curtin on the 24th of July. Oliver C. James, of Reading, of Company B, was elected major, and Dr. Harrison T. Witman, of Reading, as assistant surgeon. On the day of its organization it proceeded to Baltimore, thence to Monocacy Junction, where for a period of two months, it was engaged in guarding the bridge

which spanned the creek, and the lines of railway. On the 1st of October it proceeded to Berkeley county, W. Va., and was posted along the line of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, with headquarters at North Mountain station, where it remained till the expiration of its term of service. Three hundred of the men re-enlisted to serve for one year and they were consolidated in three companies. They remained on duty under the command of Capt. Henry D. Markley, of Company A. Subsequently seven other companies were recruited, and they together were reorganized as the 195th Regiment with Captain Markley as major. It performed guard duty at Kabletown, Berryville, and Staunton. At the latter place, the three veteran companies were mustered out in the middle of June, 1865.

196TH REGIMENT.—This regiment was recruited under the auspices of the Union League at Philadelphia, to serve for one hundred days, and it was known as the 5th Union League Regiment. It included Company I, of Berks county. It was organized at Camp Cadwalader, Philadelphia, on July 20, 1864, and a week later proceeded to Camp Bradford, near Baltimore. About the middle of August, it was ordered to Chicago, Ill., where it performed guard duty at Camp Douglas, a large number of prisoners of war having been confined there. Early in November, it returned to Philadelphia, and was thence ordered to duty at Fort Delaware. It was mustered out at Philadelphia on Nov. 17, 1864.

ONE YEAR'S SERVICE—1864-65

Six volunteer companies from Berks county were in the service for one year from September, 1864, to August, 1865.

83D REGIMENT.—After the battle of Hatcher's Run on Feb. 6, 1865, this regiment went into camp at Hampton station, and while there four full companies were assigned to it, including Company I, recruited at Harrisburg for a service of one year. There were a number of men from Reading in this company. The concluding efforts of the great strife were started on March 29th, and in quick succession this regiment was engaged in the battles of Jones' Farm, White Oak Road, Gravelly Run, Five Forks, Sutherland Station, Jeffersonville, and Appomattox Court-House. It was mustered out of service on June 28th at Washington and thence it proceeded to Harrisburg, where it was finally disbanded on July 4th.

192D REGIMENT.—In July, 1864, a regiment was recruited in Philadelphia, for a service of one hundred days, and mustered in as the 192d. It was mustered out of service in November following. One of the companies re-enlisted for one year, and in February, 1865, nine new companies united with it, which were mustered in as a second regiment of the same number. One of the nine companies was Company F, recruited at Reading. The regiment was organized at Harper's Ferry, and when the

spring campaign opened, it moved up the valley to Staunton and Lexington. It was retained in the department and engaged in various duties till Aug. 24th, when it was mustered out of service at Harper's Ferry.

195TH REGIMENT.—Three companies of the 195th Regiment in the one hundred days' service were re-enlisted in the one year's service, which included Company A, commanded by Capt. Henry D. Markley. It was classified with other companies which became the 195th Regiment. Captain Markley became the major; and Dr. H. T. Witman, the assistant surgeon. It was organized on the field in February, 1865, at Martinsburg, Va., and Company A was mustered out at Summit Point, Va., on June 21, 1865.

On April 1, 1865, the regiment was sent to guard the fords of the Shenandoah river; and on the 22d it was ordered to Berryville.

198TH REGIMENT.—This regiment was recruited at Philadelphia during the summer of 1864, under the auspices of the Union League, to enter service for one year, and included Companies D and G from Berks county. It was organized Sept. 9th, and September 19th following it proceeded to join the Army of the Potomac in front of Petersburg. Upon its arrival it was assigned to the 1st Brigade, 1st Division of the 5th Corps. It participated in the battles of Peeble's Farm, Hatcher's Run, and White Oak Swamp. At the last named Capt. Isaac Schroeder was mortally wounded. It was mustered out at Arlington Heights June 3, 1865.

205TH REGIMENT.—Companies B, E and H of this regiment were recruited in Berks county. They rendezvoused at Camp Curtin, where, on Sept. 2, 1864, field officers were selected, including William F. Walter, captain of Company E, as lieutenant-colonel, who had served in the 104th Regiment. On the 5th, the regiment left Harrisburg, proceeded to Washington, crossed the Potomac, and went into camp at Fort Corcoran. Afterward it was engaged in picketing from the left of the army line to the James, and in building forts and earthworks for the defense of City Point. On Oct. 9th, it was ordered to the Army of the James. With the exception of occasional marches in support of aggressive movements, the regiment remained in camp, near Fort Prescott on the Army Line railroad during the winter, where it was engaged in drill and fatigue duty. On March 25, 1865, it participated in the retaking of Fort Steadman, and afterward in the siege of Petersburg. It was mustered out of service at Seminary Hill on June 2, 1865.

213TH REGIMENT.—This regiment was recruited at Philadelphia, and in Berks, Chester and Juniata counties, with the assistance of the Union League. It was organized on March 2, 1865, and two days afterward transferred to Annapolis, Md., to guard Camp Parole. Part of the regiment was sent to Frederick, Md., for duty on the line of the P. & O. railroad. In April, it was concentrated at Washington, and posted along the northern de-

fenses, where it continued until Nov. 18th, when it was mustered out of service. Company D was recruited in Berks county.

MISCELLANEOUS ENLISTMENTS

About 225 men from the county were enlisted in other companies but not enough of them in any company to be classified in the foregoing list.

5TH U. S. ARTILLERY.—Battery 11 included seven men from Marion township, Berks county.

19TH U. S. INFANTRY.—Company G, commanded by Capt. Edmund L. Smith, of Reading, included seven men from Berks county.

MILITARY ASSOCIATIONS

A number of associations have been organized since the close of the Civil war by the survivors or their sons:

GRAND ARMY POSTS.—*McLean Post, No. 16, G. A. R.*, was organized at Reading and chartered Dec. 12, 1866, having been named after Lieut.-Col. Joseph A. McLean, of the 88th Regiment. It has maintained a successful organization since then. It has collected an extensive library of military literature.

Keim Post, No. 76, G. A. R., was chartered Feb. 22, 1878, also at Reading. It has also maintained its organization since, with separate quarters. It was named after Gen. William H. Keim.

Mcade Camp, No. 16, Sons of Veterans, was instituted Oct. 30, 1884, being a branch of the Sons of Veterans at Philadelphia, and designed to keep active the memory of the sacrifice of their fathers in the Civil war.

Loyal Ladies' League, No. 6, was instituted April 17, 1884, at Reading. Only mothers, wives, daughters and sisters of honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the Civil war are admitted to membership. It is an auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic.

McLean Womans Relief Corps, No. 10, was instituted Oct. 1, 1884, as an auxiliary to Post No. 16, G. A. R. It has held a number of fairs and camp-fires for the benefit of the Post and thereby contributed much pecuniary aid.

EX-PRISONERS OF WAR.—Certain enlisted men in the Civil war from Berks county, who were prisoners of war, also formed an association for mutual aid and social intercourse on July 10, 1884, and they too have maintained an active organization since then.

SPANISH WAR—1898

The war of the United States with Spain grew out of the oppression of the people of Cuba by the Spanish government, which extended through a long period of time, and the repeated efforts of the people toward establishing a republican form of government elicited the earnest sympathy of our republic. The conduct of our own government was always reserved and guarded, but when our battleship "Maine" was blown up in the harbor of Havana

on Feb. 15, 1898, causing the loss of 266 sailors, the feeling of our people, incited by the metropolitan newspapers, became so intense against Spain that it culminated in a proposed declaration of war in Congress on March 29th, and in the recognition of the independence of Cuba on April 19th. Two days after this recognition, our Minister to Spain was unceremoniously dismissed from Madrid; four days afterward President McKinley called for 125,000 volunteers; and six days afterward, a formal declaration of war was passed by Congress. When this signal was given, the military operations became immediately very active and determined, and within a week more the great naval battle in Manila harbor had taken place, with unprecedented success to the American fleet of battleships under the command of Admiral Dewey, and the total destruction of the Spanish fleet.

While these events were transpiring, the patriotic spirit at Reading was aroused, and the "Reading Artillerists," under the command of Capt. Samuel Willits, responded to the President's call, and proceeded to Mt. Gretna, where it was mustered into service on May 9th, with the 4th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. The regiment was transferred to Chickamauga Park, in Georgia, arriving there on May 16th; and after having been quartered at several other places, it finally reached Guanica, in Porto Rico, on Aug. 2d, and thence it proceeded to Arroyo, the hills near by being shelled by the American troops while the disembarkment of the men took place. The regiment participated in the movements which led up to the battle and the capture of Guayama without becoming actually engaged; and shortly afterward it constituted part of the 1st Battalion and wagon-train which marched toward Guayama to support the advancing army. The enemy was endeavoring to execute a flank movement when the regiment was ordered to occupy a commanding position and while engaged in this important work the news of the "Peace Protocol" was circulated, which caused further operations to cease. Then the regiment was directed to withdraw to a point on the Ponce Road, near the town, and there it remained on outpost duty until August 28th, when it marched about fifty miles to the city of Ponce, and thence to the Port de Playa. It then took passage on the transport "City of Chester" for New York City, where it arrived on Sept. 6th, and was then furloughed for sixty days. It was mustered out of service on Nov. 16th. The company reached Reading on Sept. 11th, at 4 a. m., and many persons were at the railroad station to extend a cordial welcome to the men. A public reception was tendered to the company in the form of a large parade in four divisions, with one thousand men in line, and a banquet in Rajah Temple, on Wednesday evening, Sept. 15th. Penn street was crowded with many thousand enthusiastic people who witnessed the parade.

John C. Hintz, the First Lieutenant of Company A, died June 26th, in Leiter Hospital, in Chickamauga Park, while the company was lying there awaiting orders to march and his remains were forwarded to Reading and buried with an imposing ceremony.

Company G, of the 9th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, recruited at Reading, was also enlisted in the service. This regiment was mustered in at Mt. Gretna on May 11, 1898, and encamped at Chickamauga Park, on May 20th. On May 25th, the President issued a second call for seventy-five thousand men, and four additional companies were added to the regiment, one of these being Company G, commanded by Capt. Henry D. Green, of Reading.

On August 20th, the regiment as a part of the 3d Division, 1st Army Corps, was ordered to Lexington, Ky., and on the 25th it was encamped at Camp Hamilton, about five miles from Lexington. It remained at that place until Sept. 18th, when it was ordered to Wilkes-Barre, Pa. There it was given an enthusiastic reception and then furloughed for thirty days. It arrived at Reading on Sept. 20th, and on the evening of the 22d, a public reception was extended to it similar to that extended to Company A, but the parade could not be made on account of a severe rain.

Both companies participated in the "Peace Jubilee" at Philadelphia on Oct. 27, 1898.

Company E of Hamburg, of the same regiment, was mustered in on May 10, 1898, at Mt. Gretna, and participated in the same services as Company A; and it was mustered out of service on Nov. 16, 1898. It was also in the Peace Jubilee at Philadelphia. It was commanded by Capt. William Kummerer.

MILITIA SYSTEM—1776-1909

The Convention of 1776, in framing the first Constitution of Pennsylvania, made provision for the establishment of a military system; and in pursuance of this provision, the General Assembly established the necessary regulations. The county of Berks, under the direction of the designated officer (called a "lieutenant," with the assistance of "sub-lieutenants"), was enabled to supply promptly and successfully all the orders made by the government for troops during the progress of the Revolution.

Previous to this system, the military affairs were governed by "Articles of Association." The men who associated together for purposes of defense were commonly known as "Associators," and those who acted in opposition either openly, or secretly, were called "Non-Associators."

RETURNS FOR 1775.—The following officers had been chosen for the several battalions of the Associators of Berks county for the year 1775-76, the company rosters having been published in that connection:

1st Battalion—Central Section

Lieut.-Col., Henry Haller. Major, Gabriel Hiester.

2d Battalion—Southern Section

Lieut.-Col., Mark Bird. Major, John Jones.

3d Battalion—Central Section

Lieut.-Col., Nicholas Lotz. Major, John Old.

4th Battalion—Northern Section

Lieut.-Col., Balser Gehr. Major, Michael Lindemuth.

5th Battalion—Western Section

Lieut.-Col., John Patton. Major, John Thornburgh.

6th Battalion—Eastern Section

Lieut.-Col., Daniel Hunter. Major, Conrad Leffler.

7th Battalion—Northeastern Section

Lieut.-Col., Sebastian Levan. Major, Samuel Ely.

RETURNS FOR 1776.—Seven battalions were organized in the county, as appeared by the delegates sent to the election at Lancaster on July 4, 1776, for two brigadier-generals. The meeting comprised the officers and privates of fifty-three battalions of Associators. A full ratio of men was sent by the militia of Berks county. The following delegates represented the county at that meeting:

1st Battalion: Officers—Major, Gabriel Hiester; Lieutenant, Philip Cremer; privates, John Hartman, Peter Filbert.

2d Battalion: Officers—Colonel, Mark Bird; Major, John Jones; privates, David Morgan, Benjamin Tolbert.

3d Battalion: Officers—Lieutenant-Colonel, Nicholas Lotz; Captain, George Riehm; privates, Henry Spohn, Matthias Wenrich.

4th Battalion: Officers—Major, Michael Lindemuth; Captain, George May; private, Michael Moser.

5th Battalion: Officers—Colonel, John Patton; Lieutenant-Colonel, John Rice; privates, Jacob Seltzer, Christian Winter.

6th Battalion: Officers—Major, Conrad Leffler; Lieutenant, John Miller; privates, John Hill, Henry Lark.

7th Battalion: Officers—Colonel, Sebastian Levan; Adjutant, Samuel Ely; privates, Philip Wisters, Casper Smeck.

RETURNS FOR 1777.—Col. Jacob Morgan and his sub-lieutenants met at Reading, on April 25, 1777, for the purpose of receiving returns of the inhabitants of Berks county between the ages of eighteen and fifty-three years. The number then returned was about four thousand. These were arranged in six districts, and meetings were ordered to be held on the 5th and 6th of May following, for the purpose of electing officers and forming companies. Morgan reported that he had forwarded to the Executive Council an exact list of the field-officers, captains, subalterns and court-martial men, comprising the six battalions of the Berks county militia, or one battalion for each district. This list appears in the *Pennsylvania Associators*, Vol. 2, pp. 257 to 276. The several battalions were returned on May 16, 1777.

Battalion	Section of County	Colonel
1st	Eastern	Daniel Hunter
2d	Northeastern	Daniel Udree
3d	Northern	Michael Lindemuth
4th	Central	Nicholas Lotz
5th	Southern	Jacob Weaver
6th	Western	Henry Spyker

NEW SYSTEM.—After the foregoing returns had been made, the Assembly deemed it necessary to provide a new militia system, because the Associators had lost their effectiveness. Shortly after the

battle of Princeton, whole companies deserted. In this behalf, a law was passed on June 13, 1777.

Oath of Allegiance.—One of the first requirements was the taking of an oath of allegiance, which had to be done before July 1, 1777. This was allowing only seventeen days; but in this time its provisions had become thoroughly known in Berks county for the time for deliberation or hesitation had passed, and prompt action was necessary.

Persons who neglected or refused to take this oath were declared to be incapable of holding any office; serving as jurors; suing for debts; electing or being elected; buying, selling, or transferring real estate; and they were liable to be disarmed by the county lieutenants and deputies. If they were not provided with passes, they were liable to be arrested as spies, upon being found out of the city or county away from their immediate residence; and forgery of a certificate was punishable with a flogging and a fine of £50.

In pursuance of the Act, over forty-nine hundred men took the oath of allegiance in Berks county during the years 1777 and 1778, before the justices of the peace in the several sections of the county. The greater number was taken from June to October in 1777.

County Districts Established.—This law directed the counties to be divided into districts, and each district was to contain not less than 440 men, nor more than 680, fit for duty, to be arranged in eight companies. The officer in charge of a county was called a "lieutenant"; and of each district, a "sub-lieutenant." It was the duty of the "lieutenant" to enlist the people, collect the fines, and execute the details of the law.

Battalions, Companies and Classes.—Each district was subdivided into eight parts, with due regard to the convenience of the inhabitants, and elected its officers from lieutenant-colonel down to subalterns. The term of service was three years. A company was set apart for each subdivision, and this was also divided by lot into eight parts, called classes, as nearly equal as possible, and the several classes were numbered from one to eight in numerical order. Berks county was divided into six districts. Accordingly, the county had six battalions, or forty-eight companies.

The rank of the battalions and their officers, also of the captains and subalterns was determined by lot. The precedence of the officers of the several counties, as to rank, was arranged according to the seniority of the counties, Philadelphia being first.

In case of invasion, or assistance were asked by Congress, the militia was called out by classes. The first draft consisted of class one of each company, and if insufficient, then class two, and so on, as occasion required. Each class was liable to serve two months, and it was relieved by the next class in numerical order.

Pay and Rations.—The pay and rations were the same as Continental troops. They were to commence two days before marching, and to be allowed at the rate of twenty miles a day till the men returned home.

Days of Drill.—Days of drill were set apart in the spring and fall for military exercises; *in companies*, on the last Monday of April, and first three Mondays of May; also, on the last two Mondays of August, the last two Mondays of September, and the third Monday of October; and *in battalions*, on the fourth Mondays of May and October.

Fines.—Enrolled men who refused to parade were fined 7s. 6d. per diem; absent officers, 10s.; non-commissioned officers and privates, 5s. On field days, the fine for non-attendance was £5, and for non-commissioned officers and privates, 15s.

Pensions.—Pensions were allowed for incapacitating injuries not exceeding one-half the pay received; and for persons who died from wounds, or were killed in service, the Orphans' Court was authorized to allow support to the families in amounts not to exceed one-half the pay of such persons.

Persons Exempted from Service.—The excepted persons from bearing arms were delegates in Congress, members of the Executive Council, judges of the Supreme court, masters and faculty of colleges, ministers, and servants purchased *bona fide*.

Subsequent Returns.—Militia returns were made and reported for the succeeding years of the Revolution until 1783, and those for the years 1778, 1780, and 1783 have been published in the *Pennsylvania Archives*.

SINCE REVOLUTION.—The military spirit of the people continued to prevail after the Revolution, and the State encouraged it for the purpose of maintaining familiarity with its affairs. Companies, regiments and brigades were organized and drilled at certain fixed times and places within the county. The meeting was commonly called "Battalion Day." It preserved a strong general interest in public affairs, especially in public defense. This interest enabled the several organizations to respond promptly to calls for their services, and their promptness was a distinguishing characteristic. Fortunately for them and especially for the country, their services were not needed frequently. Not to mention the "Whiskey Insurrection" and "Northampton Affair" as of any military consequence, there were but two occasions for a period covering over sixty years in which their services were required, one having been the English war of 1812-15, and the other the Mexican war of 1846-48, each, by a strange coincidence, occurring after a period of about thirty years. These military exercises were continued until the beginning of the Rebellion; but this outbreak of the Southern States against the Northern was of such a serious, long-continued and costly nature that the spirit for a return to military exercise had come to be entirely exhausted.

Proffer Services to President.—In 1798, a misunderstanding arose between our National government and the French on account of their seizing and detaining many of our vessels for examination, to ascertain whether or not we, as a neutral government, were carrying English commodities. Some conflicts arose on the sea, but Napoleon, upon taking control of the French government, soon established a cordial understanding between the two countries and American vessels were no longer molested; and two years afterward Louisiana was purchased by the United States.

During this excitement, the officers of the Berks County Brigade met at the Court-House in Reading on June 30, 1798, and addressed a patriotic letter to President Adams, offering their services to assist in resenting the insult of the French to our government; to which the President gave them a very appreciative acknowledgment.

Military Division.—In 1807 Berks and Dauphin counties comprised the Sixth Division. In 1814 two new counties, Schuylkill and Lebanon, were added to this division, Dauphin and Lebanon forming the 1st Brigade and Berks and Schuylkill the 2d; and in 1819, Dauphin, Lebanon and Berks comprised the 5th Division. The last Act before the Rebellion was passed in 1858, by which Berks was still a part of the same division.

Encampment at Reading.—A large and successful encampment of militia was held at Reading in 1812. It was arranged along the base of Penn's Mount and continued from May 18th for one week.

The following troops attended:

Company	Men
Reading Troop.....	30
Reading Artillerists.....	52
Washington Grays (Reading).....	40
National Grays (Reading).....	33
National Troop (Oley).....	45
Hamburg Troop.....	30
Hamburg Artillerists.....	52
Womelsdorf Legion.....	46
Bernville Rifle Grays.....	65
Berks Rifle Rangers.....	54
Pottsville Cavalry.....	28
Pottsville Infantry.....	44
Orwigsburg Grays.....	40
Allentown Guards.....	34

595

Attendance from Reading, 157; from country districts, 292. Brig.-Gen. William High was in command of the Berks County Brigade. The commander-in-chief of the State was also present.

The daily duty at the encampment was similar to army regulation during actual war. It was as follows:

Morning gun at daybreak	Grand parade, 10 A.M.
Reveille	Dinner, 12 M.
Roll-call	Regular parade, 4 P.M.
Morning parade	Evening gun, 6 P.M.
Breakfast	Tattoo and countersign, 10 P.M.
Detail of guards	
Inspection	Lights extinguished, 11 P.M.
And from 11 P.M. to daylight "the sentry walked his lonely round."	

A review of the troops was held on Saturday, May 21st. The day was fine, and thousands of persons were in attendance.

Gen. Winfield Scott, accompanied by his aids, arrived at Reading on the day of the review. He was met at the "depot" (Seventh and Chestnut streets) by a detachment of military and escorted to "Herr's Hotel" (United States, north side of Penn Square, between Fourth and Fifth streets), followed by many citizens. He spent Sunday at Reading. On Monday, 23d, he reviewed the troops at the encampment and during this day medals were shot for. General Scott expressed himself as highly pleased with the discipline and appearance of the encampment and he paid a special compliment to the "Reading Artillerists." Whilst here he presented each of the Revolutionary survivors with a \$20 gold-piece.

Battalions in 1856.—In 1856 there were in the county twenty-four companies of militia, arranged in six battalions, which comprised the 1st Brigade, of the 5th Division of Pennsylvania Volunteers:

Battalion	Section	Officer	Company	Men
1st	Reading	Major W. H. Keim	6	539
2d	Hamburg	Major J. A. Beitenman	4	206
3d	Maiden-creek	Major D. B. Kaufman	3	123
4th	Oley	Major Isaac Schroeder	5	311
5th	Union	Major W. J. Schoener	3	135
6th	Marion	Major John Bechtold	3	139
Total men, 1,463; total force of troops in the county,				6,644.

These battalions were in active existence when the Civil war broke out in 1861.

STATE NATIONAL GUARD.—In 1861, a new system was provided which still prevails. The assessors of the county are required to enroll "every able-bodied male citizen resident within the State, of the age of twenty-one years and under the age of forty-five years," excepting certain persons specified; and this roll of persons is placed on record in the office of the county commissioners; and the whole number of persons liable to military duty is reported by the commissioners to the adjutant-general of the State. The enrolled militia shall be subject to no active duty except in case of war, invasion, riot, etc. The commander-in-chief may order the militia to be drafted from the persons liable to duty or accept as many volunteers as may be required. The organization is similar to the previous systems, but the State is divided into twenty divisions, each county to form a separate brigade. Berks, Lebanon and Dauphin counties comprise the 5th Division. Subsequent modifications have been made.

The active militia is styled the "National Guard of Pennsylvania." In time of peace it shall comprise an aggregate not to exceed ten thousand officers and men and "consist of two hundred companies, fully armed, uniformed and equipped, to be distributed among the several military divisions of the State according to the number of its taxable population." And provision is made for drilling, inspections and encampments. This system is car-

ried on successfully, but without causing any public excitement, excepting during the time and in the vicinity of any encampment.

Reading Artillerists.—The Reading Artillerists is one of the most prominent military organizations in Pennsylvania. It was organized at Reading, March 23, 1794, and has continued in active existence until the present time, excepting from the close of the Civil war in 1865 until 1881, when it was re-organized. At first it was known as the Reading Union Volunteers, and in the English war of 1812-15 as the Reading Washington Guards, and about 1820 it took the name of Reading Artillerists which it has retained until now. The first captain was Daniel de B. Keim and he served as such from 1794 to 1830. It was engaged in the Whiskey Insurrection of 1794; in the Northampton riot of 1799; in the English war of 1812-15; in the Philadelphia religious riots of 1844; in the Mexican war of 1846-48; in the Civil war of 1861-65; in the Homestead riots of July, 1892; in the Hazleton riots of September, 1897; in the Spanish war of 1898; in the Schuylkill riots of 1900; and in the Northumberland and Luzerne riots from September, 1902, to April, 1903.

The captain of the company since Feb. 6, 1905, has been Dr. H. Melvin Allen, and he has developed the company to a high grade of efficiency; for, in the first year the company ranked fourth in the regiment, the second year it ranked second, and the third year it ranked first, having in 1907 reached the average of .99 55-100. In the fourth year, however it dropped to second place, the company which it had surpassed in 1907 having reached first place in 1908 by the remarkable average of .99 65-100 (the Artillerists being .99 60-100).

The following is a list of the captains of the company:

Daniel de B. Keim, 1794-1830.
 George May Keim, 1830-34.
 William H. Miller, 1834-39.
 William Strong, 1839-44.
 Thomas S. Leoser, 1844-49.
 Marks John Biddle, 1849-50; 1852-55.
 Daniel R. Clymer, 1850-52.
 William I. Cious, 1855-57.
 George W. Alexander, 1857-61.
 William H. Andrews, 1862.
 Thomas M. Richard, 1862-63.
 Robert H. Savage, 1881-82.
 William H. Souders, 1882-83.
 Samuel H. Stahr, 1883-85.
 Henry J. Christoph, 1885-95.
 Samuel Willits, 1895-99.
 Edward E. Machamer, 1899-1902.
 Reuben C. Pottenger, 1902-05.
 H. Melvin Allen, since 1905.

A military company was organized at Hamburg, April 13, 1875, and became attached to the N. G. P. as Company E, 4th Regiment, having been a continuation of the "Blue Mountain Legion." It was called into active service to assist in quelling the riots at Reading in July, 1877, at Homestead in July, 1892, in Schuylkill county, in 1900, and in Northumberland and Luzerne counties from September,

1902, to April, 1903. It was also engaged in the Spanish war with the 4th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, having been mustered into the National service May 10, 1898, and mustered out Nov. 16, 1898. It participated in the movements of the army in Porto Rico, and was then commanded by Capt. William Kummerer. [See reference to Company and Armory in description of Hamburg, Chapter XI.] It was commanded by the following captains:

Edward F. Smith, 1875-83.
Charles F. Seaman,* 1883-93.
John F. Ancona, 1893-97.
Benjamin F. Gehris, 1897-98.
Dr. John R. Wagner, 1898.
William Kummerer, 1898-1902.
Monroe M. Dreibellis, 1902-07.
Wilson S. Lewis, since 1907.

Company G, of the 9th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, was organized at Reading by Henry D. Green (a prominent attorney) in response to a second call of President McKinley for 75,000 additional troops, and mustered into the National service July 27, 1898. It was encamped in Kentucky during August and part of September, and was mustered out of service Oct. 29, 1908.

These three companies (Company A, Company E, and Company G) from Berks county participated in the great Peace Jubilee at Philadelphia on Oct. 27, 1898, after the successful termination of the Spanish war.

Company I, of the 4th Regiment, N. G. P., was organized in 1898 as a provisional company in order to maintain a military organization of the National Guard at Reading during the absence of Company A, and mustered in June 9th, with a full quota. It became attached to the National Guard of the State in 1900. Harry M. Philippi was the captain until he resigned in 1901; Jerome Seider from 1901 to 1903, and Ralph R. Koser from 1903 to 1906.

The company was re-organized by Capt. Charles G. Miller in October, 1906, after it had been allowed to retrograde for five years to the point of disbanding, with only thirty-five enlisted men. In two years he brought it to the standard of sixty men and three officers, and secured for the company an average of 97, and a rating as the fifth company in the regiment; which evidences in a high degree his superior character and ability as its commanding officer.

The company was called out to assist in quelling the labor troubles in Schuylkill county in 1900, and in Northumberland and Luzerne counties in 1902-03.

This company is a re-organization of the historical company known for many years as the "Reading Rifles."

The 4th Regiment, N. G. P., comprises the companies from Berks, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh and Schuylkill counties.

ENROLLMENT FOR MILITARY SERVICE.—In August, 1908, the county had 29,105 men enrolled for military service as reported to the Commissioners by the assessors of the several districts:

* Elected major of regiment in 1903.

an increase of 2,198 over the number for 1905. Reading contained over half, 16,383. The number for the several districts was as follows:

District	Total Enrolled
Albany	156
Alsace, Lower	139
Alsace	118
Amity	187
Bern	191
Bern, Upper	106
Bethel	227
Brecknock	126
Boyetown	317
Bechtelsville	57
Bernville	56
Birdsboro, E. W.	304
Birdsboro, W. W.	157
Centreport	20
Centre	209
Caernarvon	87
Cumru	630
Colebrookdale	237
Douglass	152
District	88
Earl	129
Exeter	320
Fleetwood	217
Greenwich	189
Hamburg, W. W.	208
Hamburg, E. W.	214
Heidelberg, N.	101
Heidelberg	236
Heidelberg, L.	583
Hereford	131
Jefferson	123
Kutztown	275
Lenhartsville	20
Longswamp	200
Maiden-creek	253
Marion	135
Maxatawny	443
Mohnton	293
Mahlenberg	455
Mt. Penn	131
Oley	311
Ontelaunee	157
Pike	83
Penn	164
Perry	250
Richmond	262
Robeson	369
Rockland	141
Ruscombmanor	177
Spring	585
Tilden	162
Topton	116
Tulpehocken	228
Tulpehocken, U.	253
Union	200
Washington	225
West Leesport	76
West Reading	308
Windsor	78
Womelsdorf	214
Wyomissing	135
Reading—	
First ward	587
Second ward	739
Third ward	834
Fourth ward	346
Fifth ward	479
Sixth ward	1,722
Seventh ward	815
Eighth ward	866
Ninth ward	1,060
Tenth ward	910
Eleventh ward	875
Twelfth ward	1,349
Thirteenth ward	1,919
Fourteenth ward	1,063
Fifteenth ward	1,791
Sixteenth ward	1,028
Total for city and county	29,105

STATE POLICE

The inefficiency of the local police authorities throughout Pennsylvania, more especially in the coal regions where many foreigners from different nations had come to be residents, was a subject of serious discussion for many years without any relief or satisfactory protection, notwithstanding the gradual increase of lawlessness and crime. Finally, the Legislature, under the recommendation of Governor Pennypacker, passed an Act for the establishment and regulation of a new department of government called the State Police, which he approved on May 3, 1905. In pursuance of this Act, a superintendent was appointed by the Governor and four troops were carefully qualified, the system going into operation throughout the State on the same day, Dec. 15, 1905.

The superintendent, Capt. John C. Groome, selected Reading as one of the four stations in the State for the location of Troop C from which to carry on the patrol of the surrounding country within a radius of thirty miles, in the performance

of their duty; and he established a "Barracks" on the Seitzinger homestead, situated along the Wyomissing road, a short distance west of the Schuylkill river (having leased the premises for two years, and afterward extended the term for two years more). Ten sub-stations have been established in the district, with two in Berks county, one at Hamburg and the other at Manatawny, along the Colebrookdale railroad.

William P. Taylor, of Reading, was appointed Nov. 11, 1905, as the captain of Troop C, and he filled the position until June 15, 1906, when he resigned. The Troop comprised a captain, a lieutenant, four sergeants and thirty privates, which were subsequently increased to fifty-seven. Another trooper was selected from Reading, C. M. Wilhelm, first sergeant.

Upon the resignation of Captain Taylor, the lieutenant was promoted, and he discharged his duties as the captain of the Troop in a superior manner until Aug. 16, 1908. He was succeeded by Capt. Lynn G. Adams, who was transferred from Troop B at Wyoming; and at the same time Lieut. William Marsh was transferred from Troop D, at Punxsutawney, to Troop C, to fill the same position; and they have discharged their trying duties in their respective positions in an admirable manner until now.

Immediately after establishing its quarters at Reading, Troop C began to patrol the district and though for a time the moving troopers along the highway in different directions from Reading were more or less objectionable, and excited adverse criticism, their dignified, straightforward, courteous behavior soon won the respect of the people, and their utility came to be appreciated for the protection to life and property which they cheerfully and promptly gave whenever required, and the appreciation of the taxpayers has been so universal in this district that they have come to regard the troopers as a necessary part of the government.

In March, 1906, a strike occurred amongst the laborers at a stone-quarry between Lebanon and

Cornwall, and serious trouble with them having been anticipated, the "State Police" at Reading was notified. A detachment of thirty-five troopers under the command of Lieutenant Smith was sent there and they soon controlled the situation, which evidenced their influence and power in such an emergency and justified the establishment of this important branch of the government.

A month afterward, a more serious incident occurred at Mt. Carmel, in Northumberland county, and again Lieutenant Smith, with forty-three troopers, was dispatched to that place, and the troopers again caused the threatening excitement to subside; however, not without the unavoidable shooting of twenty-two rioters and the injury of five of the troopers. And in April, 1908, a detachment was ordered to Chester on account of the strike of the trolley-car operators, and the troopers remained there two weeks, until their assistance and presence were no longer required.

On the night of Sept. 15, 1907, Timothy Kelleher, one of Troop C, while on his way from Reading to the "Barracks" by the short cut over the Pennsylvania railroad bridge, was stabbed and killed by two Italians, who were apparently assaulting a woman along the railroad. Kelleher, hearing the disturbance, went boldly to the woman's assistance, and the Italians, thinking that he was interfering with them, assaulted him with fatal result. They were caught several days afterward, while trying to escape, tried and convicted; one of them of murder, he being hanged, and the other of manslaughter, he being sentenced to the Eastern penitentiary for twelve years.

The State Police, in four years, came to be highly regarded in the vicinity of Reading, and the county officials treated the troopers with the utmost consideration.

On May 31, 1909, Company C was removed to Pottsville, Schuylkill county, because its presence in that community was found to be more necessary.

CHAPTER IX—CENSUS

No regular enumeration of the inhabitants of Pennsylvania was made previous to 1790. The first provision for enumeration was made by the Constitution of the United States, adopted Sept. 17, 1787. Therein provision was made for the apportionment of representatives from the several States to Congress, and of direct taxes; and to effect a just apportionment the actual enumeration was required to be made within three years after the first meeting of Congress, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct.

It has been ascertained that in 1741, the following taxables were situated in the eastern division of the county, then part of Philadelphia county:

Amity	70
Allamingle*	37
Colebrookdale	85
Douglass	58
Exeter	76
Maiden-creek	75
Manatawny†	111
Total	512
Estimated Population	2,500

The number of taxables in the various counties of Pennsylvania in 1760 and 1770 are shown as follows:‡

	1760	1770
Philadelphia	8,321	10,145
Bucks	3,148	3,177
Chester	4,761	5,485
Lancaster	5,631	6,608
York	3,302	4,426
Cumberland	1,501	3,521
Berks	3,016	3,302
Northampton	1,987	2,795
	31,667	39,665

The first census of Pennsylvania was taken on Sept. 7, 1791; and within every ten years thereafter, the census has been regularly taken to the present time. The result of each enumeration is set forth in the following table. The figures were taken from the Census Reports of the United States, published by order of Congress. The blank spaces in the table opposite certain districts indicate non-existence of those districts at the time of enumeration.

Where large decrease of population in certain districts for a succeeding census is observable, it indicates reduction of the districts by the erection

of others. For instance, Alsace in 1850 had a population of 2,697; but in 1860 it had only 1,299. The township of Muhlenberg was cut off in 1850 and erected into a separate district. Also, Windsor in 1850 had 1,211, but in 1880 only 830. The township was reduced in area by the extension of the limits of the borough of Hamburg. This extension was made in 1871.

For convenience in making comparisons, the following statement is presented in order to show when the districts with the blank spaces were erected, and from which districts they were taken:

Alsace, Lower, taken from Alsace.....	1888
Bechtelsville, " " Washington	1890
Bern, Upper, taken from Bern	1789
Bernville, taken from Penn	1851
Birdsboro, " " Union and Robeson	1872
Boyetown, " " Colebrookdale	1865
Centre, " " Bern and Bern, Upper	1842
Centreport, " " Centre	1881
Fleetwood, " " Richmond	1873
Hamburg, " " Windsor	1830
Heidelberg, Lower, taken from Heidelberg	1842
Heidelberg, North, " "	1844
Jefferson, taken from Tulpehocken and Tulpehocken, Upper	1851
Kutztown, " " Manatawny	1815
Lehighville, " " Greenwich	1887
Marion, " " Tulpehocken	1843
Molinton, " " Cumru	1907
Muhlenberg, taken from Alsace	1850
Ontelaunee, " " Maiden-creek	1850
Penn, " " Bern and Bern, Upper	1840
Perry, " " Windsor	1849
Pike, " " District	1813
Shillington, " " Cumru	1908
Spring, " " Cumru	1850
Tilden, " " Bern, Upper	1887
Topton, " " Longswamp	1877
Tulpehocken, Upper, taken from Tulpehocken	1820
Washington, taken from Colebrookdale and Hereford	1839
West Reading, taken from Spring	1907
Womelsdorf, " " Heidelberg	1833
Wyomissing, " " Spring	1906

In 1800, Berks county included three organized townships which lay north of the Blue Mountain, whose enumeration was as follows:

Brunswick	1,214
Manheim	1,072
Pinegrove	959
Unorganized	993
Total Population	4,238

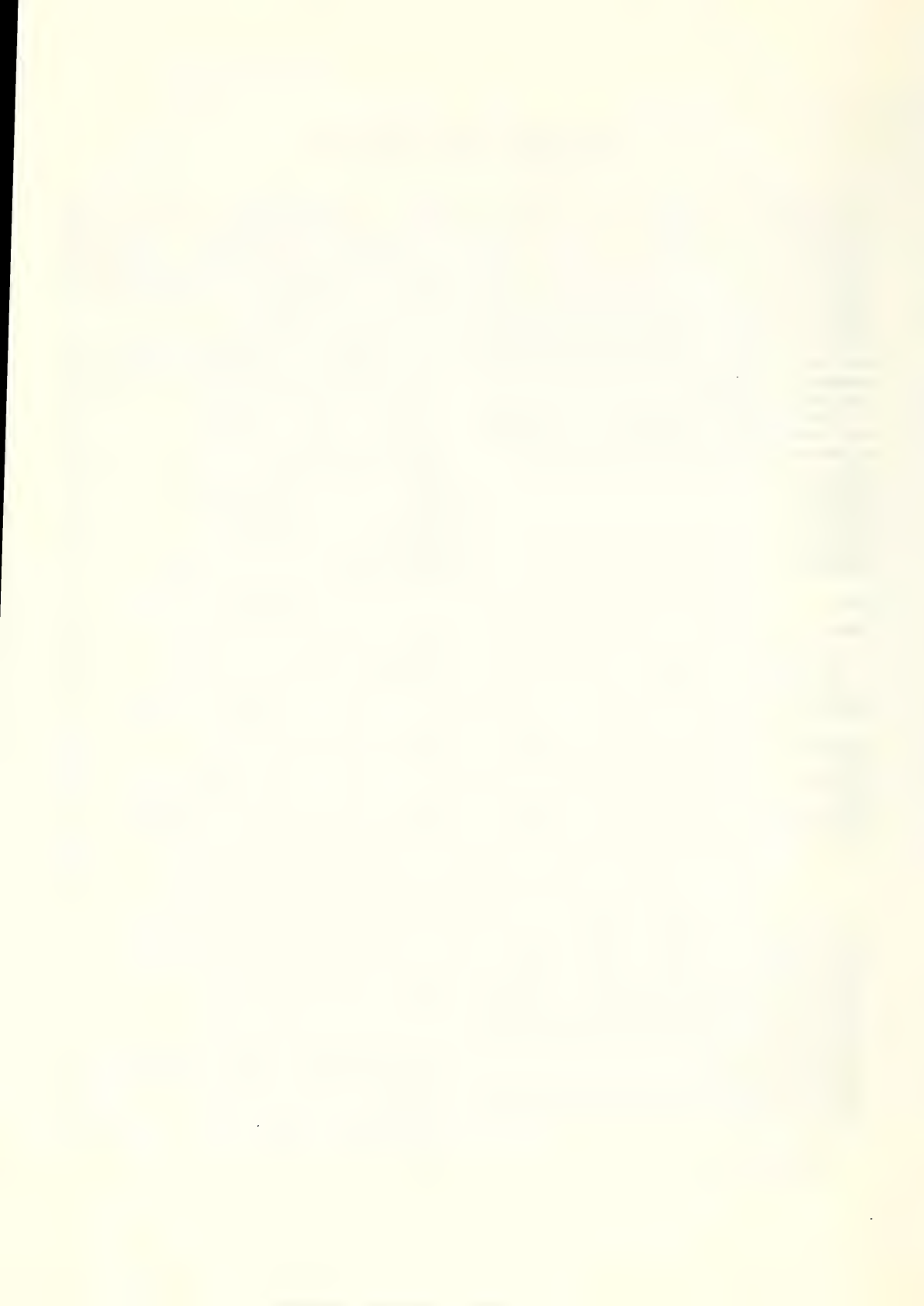
The population of the county is given in the table at 32,407, but the number of inhabitants then in that part which lay south of the mountain was 28,169.

In 1810, the county included seven townships north of the mountain, whose enumeration was as follows:

* Albany.

† Doubtless intended for Oley.

‡ 14 Col. Rec., 326.



Brunswick	1,770
Mahantango, Lower	637
Mahantango, Upper	489
Manheim	1,354
Norwegian	415
Pine-Grove	1,290
Schuylkill	353
Total Population	6,303

The population of the county for 1810 is given at 43,146, but the number then in that part of the county south of the mountain was 36,838. The townships named were cut to Schuylkill county in its erection in 1811.

CENSUS OF COUNTY, 1800 TO 1900

	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
Reading	2,386	3,462	4,332	5,856	8,410	15,743	23,162	23,930	43,278	58,661	78,961
Albany	858	995	1,182	1,129	1,057	1,406	1,586	1,510	1,603	1,491	1,316
Alsace	890	1,275	1,640	1,942	2,498	2,697	1,299	1,294	1,523	1,691	826
Alsace, Lower											1,137
Amity	817	1,090	1,279	1,384	1,664	1,566	1,596	1,646	1,598	1,552	1,372
Bechtelsville											381
Bern	2,049	2,266	1,791	2,154	3,149	1,734	2,516	2,124	2,176	1,955	1,929
Bern, Upper		1,342	2,017	2,117	2,906	1,747	2,027	2,008	2,179	989	904
Bernville								457	495	365	344
Bethel	817	924	1,294	1,482	1,458	1,871	2,159	2,285	2,329	2,139	1,931
Birdsboro									1,705	2,261	2,264
Bovertown								690	1,099	1,436	1,709
Brecknock	338	495	536	866	935	876	844	813	923	949	946
Caernarvon	541	723	829	862	813	977	953	927	951	942	959
Centre					1,216	1,346	1,392	1,529	1,627	1,418	1,313
Centreport										133	141
Coiebrookdale	671	792	1,046	1,229	1,124	1,102	1,359	1,660	1,150	1,352	1,395
Cumru	1,413	2,017	2,462	2,688	2,939	3,853	2,182	2,573	3,064	3,927	5,772
District	753	805	509	562	583	842	786	724	798	715	651
Douglass	450	660	709	839	1,133	1,018	1,120	1,072	1,151	1,143	1,029
Earl	489	794	934	990	1,158	1,017	1,143	1,022	1,141	927	909
Exeter	802	1,194	1,381	1,455	1,911	2,074	2,308	2,239	2,469	2,308	2,503
Fleetwood									802	878	978
Greenwich	1,004	1,104	1,337	1,407	1,629	1,842	2,041	2,151	1,988	1,651	1,470
Hamburg	329					1,035	1,334	1,590	2,010	2,127	2,315
Heidelberg	1,569	2,802	3,605	4,124	3,539	805	1,013	1,193	1,281	1,440	1,611
Heidelberg, Lower						2,144	2,308	2,480	2,862	2,876	3,896
Heidelberg, North						844	956	979	950	854	736
Hereford	923	1,140	1,431	1,709	1,235	1,244	1,372	1,260	1,406	1,357	1,292
Jefferson							1,122	1,113	1,072	969	840
Kutztown	203				693	640	915	915	1,198	1,595	1,328
Lenhartsville										152	144
Longswamp	863	998	1,371	1,695	1,836	1,868	2,217	2,910	3,426	3,607	2,597
Maiden-creek	770	918	1,192	1,350	1,749	1,284	1,531	1,615	1,714	1,775	1,639
Marion						1,530	1,628	1,837	1,392	1,269	1,162
Maxatawny	929	1,630	1,847	2,108	1,897	1,740	2,093	2,531	2,843	2,264	2,407
Muhlenberg							1,676	1,547	1,913	2,069	2,069
Oley	968	1,284	1,410	1,469	1,877	1,799	2,056	1,986	2,175	2,098	2,115
Ontelaunee						1,045	1,398	1,339	1,265	1,129	1,142
Penn						1,476	1,444	1,515	1,530	1,282	1,164
Perry						1,320	1,526	1,680	1,527	1,575	1,583
Pike			645	752	790	883	1,178	925	921	882	806
Richmond	731	971	1,135	1,379	1,997	2,056	2,575	2,874	2,226	1,916	1,727
Robeson	1,232	1,807	2,065	1,966	2,016	2,404	2,461	2,458	2,322	2,483	2,475
Rockland	848	1,026	1,130	1,342	1,649	1,369	1,707	1,451	1,527	1,423	1,240
Ruscombmanor	375	932	1,057	1,256	1,189	1,235	1,566	1,408	1,466	1,313	1,202
Spring							2,004	2,253	2,340	2,514	4,064
Tilden										1,082	1,003
Topton									515	500	542
Tulpehocken	2,119	2,294	3,238	3,200	2,941	1,803	1,956	2,013	2,092	1,972	1,764
Tulpehocken, Upper				1,456	1,581	1,983	1,125	1,196	1,274	1,194	1,006
Union	669	766	921	1,046	1,272	1,665	1,968	2,165	1,540	1,317	1,230
Washington					1,210	1,154	1,600	1,609	1,924	2,173	1,737
Windsor	993	1,358	1,950	2,298	2,882	1,115	1,450	1,211	830	686	694
Womelsdorf	370				849	947	1,076	1,031	1,097	1,141	1,136
	28,169	37,864	46,275	53,152	64,569	77,129	93,818	106,701	122,597	137,327	159,615

In 1790, Reading had a population of 2,235; and the whole county of Berks had 30,179.



TAXABLES

Townships	1885	1908
Albany	378	491
Alsace	397	237
Alsace, Lower		334
Amity	464	532
Bern	513	826
Bern, Upper	548	325
Bethel	617	784
Brecknock	235	296
Caernarvon	273	304
Centre	359	439
Colebrookdale	237	520
Cumru	770	1,318
District	187	252
Douglass	312	402
Earl	294	439
Exeter	637	935
Greenwich	475	486
Heidelberg	309	584
Heidelberg, Lower	737	1,185
Heidelberg, North	220	235
Hereford	348	400
Jefferson	268	296
Longswamp	829	916
Maiden-creek	499	629
Marion	446	416
Maxatawny	673	984
Muhlenberg	504	1,206
Oley	605	695
Ontelaunee	335	392
Penn	389	383
Perry	441	560
Pike	260	267
Richmond	509	596
Robeson	630	738
Rockland	399	419
Ruscombmanor	348	503
Spring	688	1,070
Tilden		346
Tulpehocken	530	573
Tulpehocken, Upper	348	399
Union	383	515
Washington	545	572
Windsor	180	269
Total	18,231	24,069
Boroughs		
Bechtelsville	1885	1908
Bernville	123	77
Birdsboro	499	151
Boyertown	345	885
Centreport	43	761
Fleetwood	242	48
Hamburg	569	497
Kutztown	382	912
Lenhartsville		658
Mohnton		55
Mt. Penn		495
Shillington		277
Topton	123	434
West Leesport		297
West Reading		189
Womelsdorf	322	598
Wyomissing		608
		626
Total	2,648	7,568
City of Reading	13,279	35,414
Total of Berks County	34,158	67,051

PROPERTY VALUATION

Townships	1885	1908
Albany	\$ 734,446	\$ 588,783
Alsace	505,199	255,106
Alsace, Lower		390,803
Amity	966,646	890,859
Bern	1,264,802	1,069,740
Bern, Upper	1,228,166	428,530
Bethel	1,203,383	859,969
Brecknock	421,363	377,478
Caernarvon	522,558	420,756
Centre	875,349	712,020
Colebrookdale	709,090	605,959
Cumru	1,415,878	2,050,003
District	283,442	201,697
Douglass	453,411	593,941
Earl	293,252	231,982
Exeter	1,432,830	1,476,449
Greenwich	954,967	662,910
Heidelberg	1,181,743	1,162,487
Heidelberg, Lower	1,484,363	1,943,379
Heidelberg, North	564,021	456,821
Hereford	749,171	547,265
Jefferson	592,774	480,254
Longswamp	1,111,986	905,015
Maiden-creek	1,057,563	982,615
Marion	1,124,984	878,772
Maxatawny	1,776,988	1,703,407
Muhlenberg	1,237,837	1,420,410
Oley	1,676,754	1,376,277
Ontelaunee	866,987	669,473
Penn	844,340	612,804
Perry	901,259	801,258
Pike	329,935	221,527
Richmond	1,223,167	1,051,788
Robeson	951,427	916,109
Rockland	518,315	395,921
Ruscombmanor	419,727	354,455
Spring	1,698,004	1,646,661
Tilden		488,083
Tulpehocken	1,104,424	922,470
Tulpehocken, Upper	602,707	452,270
Union	607,398	461,695
Washington	941,451	607,060
Windsor	472,828	401,944
Total	\$ 37,304,974	\$ 33,378,205
Boroughs		
Bechtelsville	1885	1908
Bernville	146,380	137,485
Birdsboro	764,033	135,310
Boyertown	648,780	1,246,204
Centreport	45,600	1,188,444
Fleetwood	295,233	48,910
Hamburg	628,848	609,514
Kutztown	430,833	951,950
Lenhartsville		793,175
Mohnton		65,410
Mt. Penn		328,910
Shillington		426,705
Topton	139,357	347,250
West Leesport		154,275
West Reading		658,725
Womelsdorf	402,532	552,439
Wyomissing		774,809
Total	\$ 3,501,596	\$ 8,429,515
City of Reading	\$ 23,780,222	\$ 50,488,000
Total of County	\$ 64,586,792	\$ 92,295,720
Exempted property for churches, etc., in 1908: City, \$7,845,650; Boroughs, \$652,036; Townships, \$2,183,840; Total, \$10,681,496.		
*Included in Cumru.		

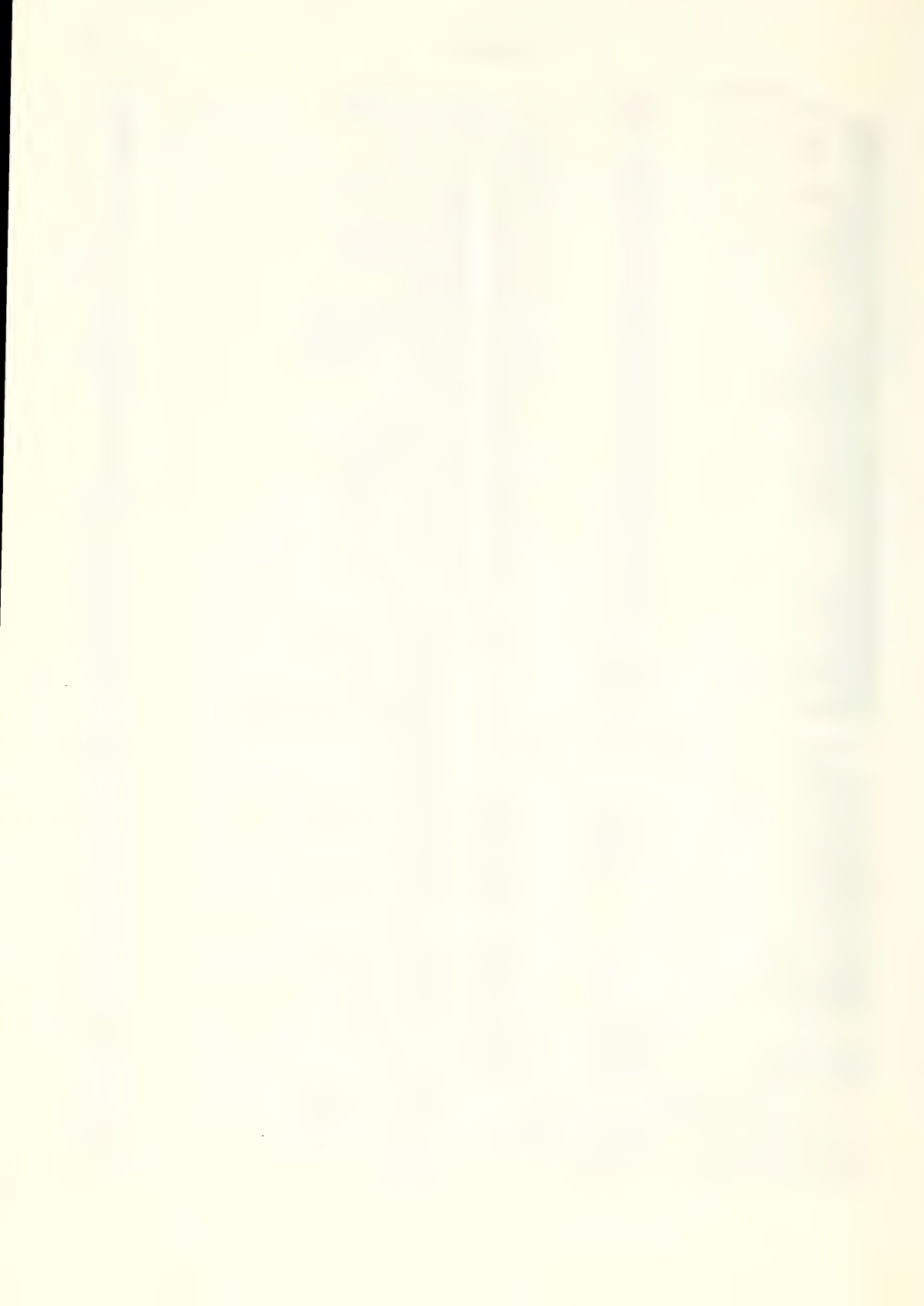


MONEY AT INTEREST

Townships		1885	1908	District		Number
Albany	\$	195,126	\$ 153,493	Albany, 1st Precinct		168
Alsace		135,954	63,532	Albany, 2d Precinct		149—317
Alsace, Lower			255,436	Alsace		207
Amity		215,582	152,697	Alsace, Lower		201
Bern		208,261	101,844	Amity		384
Bern, Upper		166,722	135,395	Bern, 1st Precinct		173
Bethel		249,926	127,446	Bern, 2d Precinct		115
Brecknock		68,011	60,060	Bern, 3d Precinct		125—413
Caernarvon		60,842	33,023	Bern, Upper		199
Centre		104,682	66,876	Bethel, 1st Precinct		263
Colebrookdale		109,821	95,171	Bethel, 2d Precinct		67
Cumru		234,944	269,164	Bethel, 3d Precinct		93
District		41,323	16,170	Bethel, 4th Precinct		85—508
Douglass		31,012	34,480	Bechtelsville		119
Earl		65,920	80,203	Bernville		111
Exeter		189,329	275,325	Birdsboro, East Ward		464
Greenwich		132,729	119,358	Birdsboro, West Ward		267
Heidelberg		123,774	164,258	Boyertown		592
Heidelberg, Lower		289,014	395,834	Brecknock, 1st Precinct		111
Heidelberg, North		52,521	30,665	Brecknock, 2d Precinct		126—237
Hereford		189,923	125,284	Caernarvon		229
Jefferson		76,572	57,401	Centre		340
Longswamp		239,340	59,462	Centreport		32
Maiden-creek		159,683	112,420	Colebrookdale		394
Marion		241,445	128,505	Cumru, 1st Precinct		389
Maxatawny		502,410	532,012	Cumru, 2d Precinct		195
Muhlenberg		216,996	295,385	Cumru, 3d Precinct		166
Oley		657,240	642,818	Cumru, 4th Precinct		118
Ontelaunee		140,139	143,544	Cumru, 5th Precinct		204—1,072
Penn		159,666	132,092	District		156
Perry		111,039	166,011	Douglass, 1st Precinct		165
Pike		54,243	60,691	Douglass, 2d Precinct		121—286
Richmond		175,014	177,200	Earl, 1st Precinct		92
Robeson		117,688	141,432	Earl, 2d Precinct		169—261
Rockland		80,062	79,763	Exeter, 1st Precinct		498
Ruscombmanor		111,257	48,900	Exeter, 2d Precinct		196—694
Spring		274,738	320,317	Fleetwood		261
Tilden			59,400	Greenwich, 1st Precinct		137
Tulpehocken		190,019	114,077	Greenwich, 2d Precinct		219—356
Tulpehocken, Upper		123,508	48,950	Hamburg, North Ward		327
Union		136,493	105,121	Hamburg, South Ward		338
Washington		255,949	151,128	Heidelberg		447
Windsor		76,003	41,650	Heidelberg, North		174
				Heidelberg, Lower, 1st Precinct		600
				Heidelberg, 2d Precinct		220
				Heidelberg, 3d Precinct		112—932
				Hereford		295
				Jefferson		217
				Kutztown		486
				Lenhartsville		46
				Longswamp, 1st Precinct		242
				Longswamp, 2d Precinct		256
				Longswamp, 3d Precinct		125—623
				Maiden-creek		482
				Marion		304
				Maxatawny, 1st Precinct		184
				Maxatawny, 2d Precinct		216
				Maxatawny, 3d Precinct		322—722
				Mohnton		405
				Mount Penn		200
				Muhlenberg, 1st Precinct		445
				Muhlenberg, 2d Precinct		395—840
				Oley, 1st Precinct		305
				Oley, 2d Precinct		234—539
				Ontelaunee		295
				Penn, 1st Precinct		150
				Penn, 2d Precinct		156—306
				Perry		427
				Pike		191
				Richmond		433
				Robeson, 1st Precinct		189
				Robeson, 2d Precinct		338
				Robeson, 3d Precinct		137—664
				Rockland		304
				Ruscombmanor		322
				Shillington		367

REGISTERED VOTERS—1908

The registered voters of the county in September, 1908, numbered 23,012. The number in the several districts was reported as follows:



Districts	Number
Spring, 1st Precinct	56
Spring, 2d Precinct	452
Spring, 3d Precinct	257—763
Tilden, 1st Precinct	124
Tilden, 2d Precinct	157—281
Topton	219
Tulpehocken, 1st Precinct	216
Tulpehocken, 2d Precinct	180—396
Tulpehocken, Upper	287
Union, 1st Precinct	304
Union, 2d Precinct	79—383
Windsor	137
Washington, 1st Precinct	215
Washington, 2d Precinct	211—426
West Leesport	136
West Reading	483
Womelsdorf	373
Wyomissing	205
Total number registered	23,012
Total registered February	22,542
Increase	469

PRESIDENTIAL VOTE, NOV. 3, 1908

Districts	Taft Rep.	Bryan Dea.
Albany, 1st Precinct	27	75
Albany, 2d Precinct	20	87
Alsace	31	58
Alsace, Lower	57	104
Amity	144	178
Bern, 1st Precinct	18	103
Bern, 2d Precinct	19	46
Bern, 3d Precinct	30	52
Bern, Upper	56	105
Bethel, 1st Precinct	44	138
Bethel, 2d Precinct	12	35
Bethel, 3d Precinct	19	29
Bethel, 4th Precinct	12	43
Brecknock, 1st Precinct	8	72
Brecknock, 2d Precinct	15	58
Boyertown	149	248
Bechtelsville	28	62
Bernville	47	39
Birdsboro, West Ward	158	30
Birdsboro, East Ward	312	59
Caernarvon	133	52
Centreport	7	22
Centre	51	171
Colebrookdale	65	168
Cumru, 1st Precinct	116	70
Cumru, 2d Precinct	47	55
Cumru, 3d Precinct	26	85
Cumru, 4th Precinct	52	30
Cumru, 5th Precinct	69	46
District	24	91
Douglass, 1st Precinct	52	57
Douglass, 2d Precinct	10	75
Earl, 1st Precinct	9	55
Earl, 2d Precinct	17	92
Exeter, 1st Precinct	110	227
Exeter, 2d Precinct	59	74
Fleetwood	108	180
Greenwich, 1st Precinct	12	94
Greenwich, 2d Precinct	15	114
Hamburg, North Ward	115	131
Hamburg, South Ward	107	145
Heidelberg	134	192
Heidelberg, L., 1st Precinct	120	261
Heidelberg, L., 2d Precinct	21	113
Heidelberg, I., 2d Precinct	42	42
Heidelberg, North	22	99
Hereford	52	129

Districts	Taft Rep.	Bryan Dea.
Jefferson	22	112
Kutztown	122	245
Lenhartsville	9	31
Longswamp, 1st Precinct	60	97
Longswamp, 2d Precinct	93	92
Longswamp, 3d Precinct	30	69
Maiden-creek	107	225
Marion	50	162
Maxatawny, 1st Precinct	30	109
Maxatawny, 2d Precinct	40	122
Maxatawny, 3d Precinct	89	145
Mohnton	168	87
Muhlenberg, 1st Precinct	78	184
Muhlenberg, 2d Precinct	57	175
Mt. Penn	56	82
Oley, 1st Precinct	86	145
Oley, 2d Precinct	40	155
Ontelaunee	96	110
Pike	14	112
Penn, 1st Precinct	14	92
Penn, 2d Precinct	11	102
Perry	65	233
Richmond	39	227
Robeson, 1st Precinct	85	39
Robeson, 2d Precinct	106	140
Robeson, 3d Precinct	24	72
Rockland	28	172
Ruscombmanor	58	119
Spring, 1st Precinct	3	24
Spring, 2d Precinct	117	216
Spring, 3d Precinct	34	104
Shillington	162	113
Tilden, 1st Precinct	79	130
Tilden, 2d Precinct	39	77
Topton	79	107
Tulpehocken, 1st Precinct	35	171
Tulpehocken, 2d Precinct	17	120
Tulpehocken, Upper	30	177
Union, 1st Precinct	159	94
Union, 2d Precinct	40	25
Washington, 1st Precinct	34	99
Washington, 2d Precinct	50	90
West Leesport	39	73
West Reading	128	191
Windsor	12	116
Womelsdorf	142	154
Wyomissing	72	66

Total county	5,651	10,123
Total city	7,823	6,959

13,476 17,082

Bryan's plurality in Berks..... 3,606

Parker's plurality over Roosevelt in the whole county in 1904 was..... 786

The plurality of Roosevelt then in Reading, however, was..... 3,369

STATE APPROPRIATIONS TO COUNTY

Received by County from State

For	1904	1908
Personal Property	\$ 51,893.72	\$ 67,243.84
Salaries—Judges	12,072.50	17,639.79
Charities—Hospitals and Asylums		
for Insane	34,835.97	154,989.33
—Hospitals	68,916.48	25,000.00
—Homes	5,037.44	3,000.00
Schools—Common	152,996.20	204,143.08
—Normal	10,033.82	27,712.14
—Superintendent's Salary	2,000.00	2,250.00
	\$337,776.13	\$502,008.18



Received by State from County

From	1904	1908	From	1904	1908
Personal Property Tax	\$ 69,191.62	\$ 89,658.45	Brewers'	\$ 8,407.50	\$ 9,900.00
Loans, Municipal	3,307.76	2,448.66	Distillers'	2,984.75	1,544.00
Writs, Wills, etc	4,270.16	4,499.49	Bottlers'	1,469.75	1,717.25
Loans, County		441.94	Billiards	1,016.50	1,563.80
Collateral Inheritance	8,396.08	20,927.72	Brokers'	432.53	318.25
Miscellaneous	175.00	175.00	Auctioneers'		
<i>Licenses</i>			Peddlers'		
Retail Mercantile	15,500.84	17,835.90	Theatre, etc.	313.50	
Wholesale Mercantile	2,771.35	3,097.58	Eating House	429.40	167.41
Retail Liquor	15,397.37	15,720.75			
Wholesale Liquor	10,397.50	11,838.00			
				\$144,461.61	\$181,854.20

BANKING IN BERKS COUNTY—JANUARY, 1909

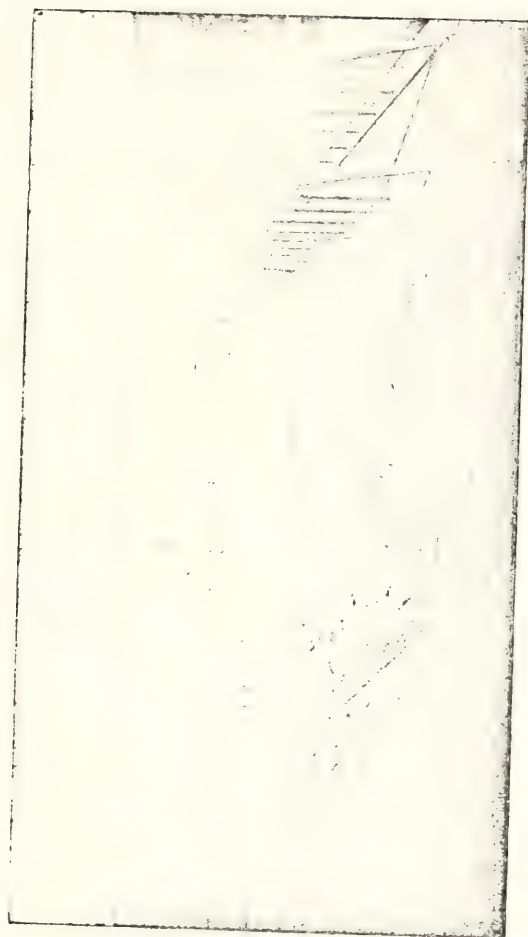
Banks and Trust Companies	Resources	Surplus and Profits	Deposits	Loans, Discounts and Investments
<i>City</i>				
Farmers National Bank.....	\$ 3,229,115.40	\$ 856,275.02	\$ 1,528,327.78	\$ 2,382,219.44
National Union Bank.....	2,498,800.55	796,064.03	1,341,400.57	1,988,143.13
First National Bank.....	1,491,663.67	97,265.60	693,378.81	925,577.35
Second National Bank.....	1,898,652.05	541,966.46	785,220.04	1,369,116.37
Penn National Bank.....	1,800,880.90	248,943.90	1,356,917.35	1,266,321.33
Keystone National Bank.....	975,472.37	193,645.98	695,572.86	636,944.86
Reading National Bank.....	1,580,840.45	331,351.99	851,487.62	1,137,377.08
Schuylkill Valley Bank.....	684,536.53	172,746.00	411,790.53	523,849.17
Neversink Bank.....	210,378.07	22,493.84	113,809.23	171,976.36
Pennsylvania Trust Co.....	4,011,463.81	527,223.80	2,829,072.37	3,529,859.17
Reading Trust Co.....	1,872,748.59	335,209.33	1,015,327.06	1,586,734.59
Colonial Trust Co.....	1,144,979.01	197,404.91	697,574.10	1,067,782.57
Berks County Trust Co.....	1,380,930.55	147,145.49	952,915.93	1,167,374.81
Commercial Trust Co.....	346,281.63	16,381.86	204,899.77	308,119.48
Total, City.....	\$23,126,743.58	\$ 4,484,118.21	\$13,387,694.02	\$18,061,395.71
<i>County</i>				
Hamburg Savings Bank.....	642,710.49	87,300.07	495,231.83	534,214.66
National Bank of Bovertown.....	1,118,378.03	196,713.11	690,852.31	896,646.18
Farmers Nat. Bank, Bovertown.....	267,005.91	4,738.98	162,766.93	184,938.90
First Nat. Bank of Birdsboro.....	358,896.34	81,852.21	177,844.12	257,362.86
Kutztown National Bank.....	448,262.27	86,186.63	250,404.56	539,561.53
Womelsdorf Union Bank.....	405,984.70	35,158.82	316,597.79	341,883.21
Wernersville National Bank.....	273,578.68	13,254.14	185,180.88	212,170.09
National Bank of Topton.....	137,484.46	3,875.27	83,149.54	82,356.65
First Nat. Bank of Oley.....	141,277.42	3,159.97	84,317.45	98,541.25
First Nat. Bank of Bernville.....	122,462.21	2,972.96	82,059.25	93,728.69
First Nat. Bank of Fleetwood.....	143,675.47	3,295.52	90,180.15	92,118.06
Mohnton National Bank.....	137,701.78	1,269.63	91,432.15	98,120.01
First Nat. Bank of Hamburg.....	129,817.78	1,508.95	78,308.83	89,318.33
Total, County.....	\$ 4,327,235.53	\$ 521,286.26	\$ 2,788,625.59	\$ 3,320,760.22
Total, City and County.....	\$27,453,979.11	\$ 5,005,404.47	\$16,176,319.61	\$21,382,155.93



LAND AND LIVE STOCK—1908

DISTRICTS	Cleared land acres	Timberland acres	Number and value of horses and mules over 4 years		Number and value of cattle over 4 years	
Albany	14,267	10,771	465	\$ 15,095	619	\$ 12,440
Alsace, Lower	1,110	1,670	102	5,630	119	2,300
Alsace	4,745	2,207	243	11,480	322	6,450
Amity	11,143	158	461	26,425	840	21,000
Bern	12,459	142	582	25,500	785	19,179
Bern, Upper	7,183	4,453	327	23,970	428	10,825
Bethel	16,419	7,757	652	45,272	936	23,833
Brecknock	8,831	1,652	338	20,805	414	8,000
Boyertown			171	12,305	17	425
Bechtelsville			60	3,715	29	860
Bernville			55	4,120	5	115
Birdsboro, East Ward			69	3,900	23	575
Birdsboro, West Ward	336	36	58	4,850	21	600
Centreport			16	1,095	5	150
Centre	12,427	639	508	23,270	785	16,605
Caernarvon	6,689	849	248	11,275	704	6,650
Cumru	12,838	1,815	772	31,220	820	21,030
Colebrookdale	5,063	292	284	18,060	497	12,594
Douglass	6,794	723	291	15,835	493	9,875
District	5,838	729	181	8,690	347	5,399
Earl	4,599	3,571	217	10,834	414	8,300
Exeter	15,139	1,519	723	40,436	1,291	35,085
Fleetwood			91	7,335	22	480
Greenwich	15,636	2,545	592	28,295	878	18,349
Hamburg, North Ward			58	2,620	22	440
Hamburg, South Ward	112		92	6,580	14	400
Heidelberg, North	8,658		320	19,695	498	11,855
Heidelberg	7,294	1,577	359	23,475	369	10,295
Heidelberg, Lower	16,925	877	865	70,070	1,112	28,260
Hereford	8,552	1,351	375	25,732	627	16,470
Jefferson	10,069	386	375	25,260	559	15,351
Kutztown			104	7,055	15	320
Lenhartsville	95	14	27	2,165	10	265
Longswamp	10,226	4,063	452	22,905	618	15,620
Maiden-creek	8,274	255	372	18,225	537	13,480
Marion	9,152	171	452	22,650	643	16,075
Maxatawny	18,856	273	742	51,615	1,078	24,756
Mohnton	118		103	4,875	4	100
Muhlenberg	5,548	679	360	16,375	393	9,825
Mt. Penn	48		45	2,550	8	160
Oley	15,233	154	715	40,000	1,300	32,730
Ontelaunee	5,372	64	274	23,920	377	10,260
Pike	4,576	3,518	243	9,791	490	11,063
Penn	11,228	698	493	30,165	617	15,425
Perry	11,239	368	445	17,990	821	14,440
Richmond	13,029	642	554	34,379	957	23,031
Robeson	13,002	7,597	647	37,196	787	14,510
Rockland	7,621	2,459	335	13,900	620	12,115
Ruscombmanor	5,587	3,170	266	11,122	410	10,420
Spring	11,547	1,339	754	34,670	857	17,160
Tilden	8,005	269	313	21,940	526	13,125
Topton			56	2,890	15	350
Tulpehocken	14,288	583	593	45,135	818	21,800
Tulpehocken, Upper	9,166	3,466	438	24,030	481	12,400
Union	7,234	6,187	351	15,260	892	10,530
Washington	7,455	1,140	366	20,590	617	15,885
West Leesport	116		31	1,200	12	250
West Reading			138	8,075	26	520
Windsor	8,017	6,125	271	13,065	481	12,025
Womelsdorf	255		71	7,042	18	640
Wyomissing			49	2,425	50	1,250
Total	418,753	88,953	28,493	\$1,142,044	28,493	\$654,613
Total for City			2,266	150,010	32	1,200
Total for County			30,759	\$1,292,054	28,525	\$655,813





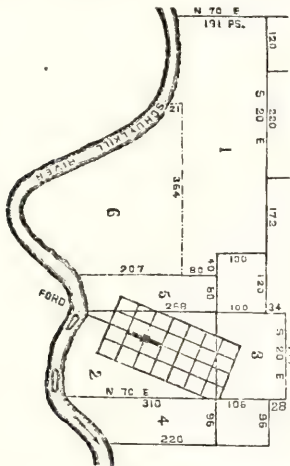
VIEW OF READING FROM THE WEST

CHAPTER X—READING

TOWN, 1748 TO 1783

GRANT TO PENN.—The English came to own the territory comprising Pennsylvania by conquest from the Dutch in 1664; and King Charles II. in 1681 granted the province to William Penn in satisfaction of a debt due to his deceased father, Admiral Penn, for meritorious services. Notwithstanding this grant, William Penn recognized the claim of the Indians to the land, and therefore obtained their release. He died in 1718, possessed of this section, and devised it to his children.

FIRST PATENTS.—In the general desire to dispose of lands in this section, the Penns directed surveys to be made and patents issued, which will appear by the following statement:



PATENTS

1. Richard Hockley, tract for 1,150 acres; survey, Feb. 19, 1733.
2. Thomas Lawrence, tract for 300 acres; survey, March 19, 1733; patent, Oct. 27, 1733.
3. Thomas Lawrence, tract for 137½ acres; survey, April 22, 1738; patent, Feb. 16, 1739.
4. Samuel Finney, tract for 150 acres; survey, Feb. 19, 1733.
5. Proprietary land, tract for 126 acres; survey, July 3, 1741.
6. Part of tract 1; on which lots were laid out, afterward called "Hockley Out-lots."

The tract for 1,150 acres adjoined the river and extended from a line now occupied by Hockley and Woodward streets to a line beyond the Charles Evans cemetery, known for many years as Hiester's Lane.

Some years after these patents had been issued, about 1740, while efforts were being made to erect a county (Berks), the Penns conceived the idea of laying out a town at this point, but finding that the

land had been sold, they endeavored to re-purchase it. Lawrence, however, declined to re-sell his two tracts. Their agent then investigated the matter, and on Sept. 28, 1743, addressed a letter to them in reference to the proposed "Town of Reading." This is the first mention of a town at this place. In 1745, lots were laid out on part 6, and this action induced Lawrence to re-convey his tracts.

TOWN LAID OUT.—During the fall of 1748, Penn's two sons, Thomas and Richard, caused a town to be laid out by Nicholas Scull, their surveyor-general, on the land adjoining the Schuylkill (Lawrence tract), at the "Ford," in the road that extended from the Tulpehocken settlements to Philadelphia. It was named Reading, after the county-town in Berkshire, England. The town-plan comprised 520 lots, and 204 out-lots, numbered consecutively.

The lots between the river and King (Third) street were laid out in 1776. The double line through these lots, on the accompanying plan, indicates the canal which extended through that part of the town from 1822 to 1834. At that time there was not a town, not even a village, in all the surrounding territory for many miles. The nearest town was Lebanon, twenty-eight miles to the west, which had been laid out in 1740; and the next was Lancaster, thirty-three miles to the southwest, which had been laid out in 1728.

LOTS SOLD.—Penn's sons then appointed Conrad Weiser, Francis Parvin and William Hartley as commissioners, to sell the lots; and on June 15, 1749, they sold a large number of them. In 1751, 1752, 1753 and 1754, patents were issued for 241 lots, and if the conditions of sale were complied with, there were in the town, by the year 1755, at least two hundred dwellings and one thousand inhabitants.

FIRST PATENTEES.—The following statement shows the years in which the buildings were probably erected, and to whom and for which lots patents were issued. It is possible that buildings were erected in, and even before, 1751, and the patents taken up afterward.

For the year 1751

Lot	Patentee	Lot	Patentee
2. Conrad Weiser (justice)		54. Conrad Weiser	
11. Daniel Steinmetz (merchant of Philadelphia)		100. Adam Witman (shop and inn-keeper)	
29. Isaac Levan (Exeter, yeoman)		114. Isaac Levan	
		120. Conrad Weiser	

For the year 1752

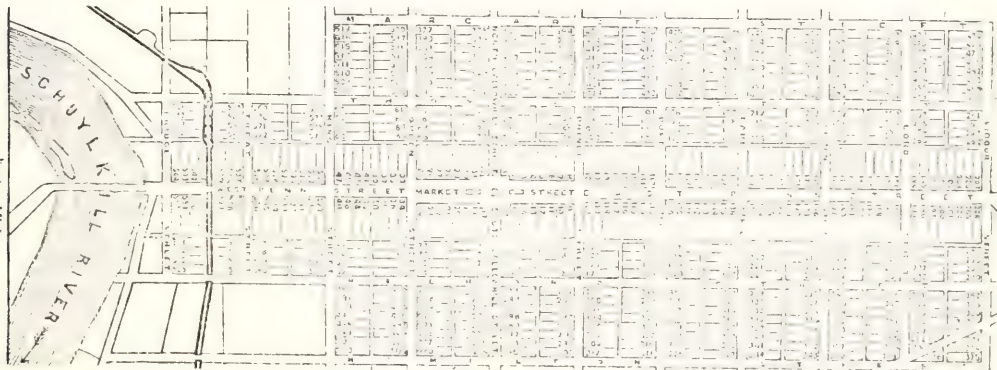
Lot	Patentee	Lot	Patentee
3. Conrad Weiser		8. John Epler (Bern, yeoman)	
4. Conrad Bower (shop and inn-keeper)			
5. Martin Gung		12. { Daniel Steinmetz	
6. Michael Reis (Tulpehocken, yeoman)		{ Jacob Morgan (inn-keeper)	
7. Moses Starr (Maiden-creek, yeoman)		13. Jacob Morgan	



Lot	Patentee	Lot	Patentee	Lot	Patentee	Lot	Patentee
14. Peter Haws (inn-keeper)		96. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg (minister)		281. Philip Jacob Moyer		382. Nicholas Retschew	
15. Daniel Huester (Montgomery Co., tanner)		97. Henry Seater		282. Henry Feeler		386. George Yoh (potter)	
18. Francis Parvin (Maiden-creek, tanner)		98. Samuel Brackman		288. Conrad Bower		389. Abraham Smith	
19. Conrad Weiser		99. Peter Knorr		296. Christian Bentzer (Lanc. county)		390. Conrad Bower	
20. John Lepow (Tulps, yeoman)		100. Benjamin Pearson (joiner)		298. Fredk. Weiser (Heidelberg, yeoman)		391. Philip Erpf (Lancaster county)	
21. Peter Weidner (Cumru, yeoman)		105. Adam St. Kohn (Lancaster, yeoman)		299. Philip Jacob Moyer		409. Adam Reiffel (Alsace, co-tas.)	
24. David Evans (Cumru, yeoman)		107. Eleazar Waggoner		328. Jacob Morgan		401. Geo. Francis Winter	
25. Michael Schmell (Heidelberg, yeoman)		108. George Hittner (Philadelphia, merchant)		329. Jacob Lomnick (baker)		404. Francis Morgan (yeoman)	
26. Benjamin Parvin (Maiden-creek, yeoman)		111. Adam Gernhart (Alsace, yeoman)		355. Michael Ludwig (Ansty)		405. Jacob Erpf	
27. William Reeser (cordwainer)		113. Henry Reuttmeyer (wheelwright)		379. Conrad Bower		422. Philip Reaser	
28. Christopher Stump (Lancaster county, yeoman)		115. Ernest Kurtz (Phila., tobacco-smist)					
30. William Parson (Easton)		116. Peter Dingman (Alsace, yeoman)		Lot	Patentee	Lot	Patentee
33. Tobias Waggoner (cork)		117. Mary Bishop		9. George Douglass		217. Hans Geo. Back (baker)	
35. George Albert (yeoman)		118. Henry Boyle		10. Christopher Witman		221. Paul Durst	
36. George Yoh (yeoman)		119. Kent Hunter (baker)		23. Isaac Weidner (yeoman)		231. Andrew Steger	
39. Isaac Weidner (Alsace, yeoman)		122. Peter T. Ambour (yeoman)		31. Jonas Seely (justice)		234. Everhard Martin (soap-maker)	
40. Peter Weidner (Alsace, yeoman)		124. Jacob Bucher		47. Jonas Seely		235. Martin Moll	
41. Peter Ruth (Cumru, yeoman)		130. Charles Fricker		50. William Thomas (Chester county)		269. Geo. Michl Kreter	
42. Simon Scherker		131. Paul Derst (Exeter, inn-keeper)		53. Nicholas Werner		267. Christopher Witman	
44. Conrad Kissinger (yeoman)		132. Andrew Schack		59. Christopher Camerer		272. Casper Zin	
45. Christopher Gottschalk		133. Peter Feder (inn-keeper)		60. Philip Erpf		273. Jacob Zin	
46. Jacob Kern (Cumru, gent.)		135. John Early (Lanc., joiner)		67. Mark Starr		274. Fredericka Waggoner	
48. Henry Wolf (Cumru, cordwainer)		136. Henry Boyle		68. James Starr (brewer)		289. Philip Jacob Erpf (mason)	
51. George Daum (cordwainer)		137. Balizer Schwenk (Alsace, yeoman)		73. John Smith (shopkeeper)		284. Andrew Fuchs	
54. John Schneider (yeoman)		139. John Wilson (Lanc., miller)		78. George Bourless		291. Francis Morgan	
55. Peter Schneider (Exeter, blacksmith)		146. Peter Muma		82. Peter Weiser (Heidelberg)		292. 295. Conrad Bower	
61. Conrad Bower		147. Henry Hahn (blacksmith)		84. Peter Weiser		304. William Jarack	
62. Reinhard Waldtz		148. Henry Lick		86. Henry Scherer		310. Geo. Michl Kreter	
64. Philip Weiser		149. Evan Popkins (cooper)		92. Frederick Weiser		312. Jacob Morgan	
66. William Erman (yeoman)		151. George Mich. Krieter (slaughterer)		104. Jost H. Sassamanhausen		314. Michael Schrack	
69. Benjamin Lightfoot (shop-keeper)		152. Ulrich Kiehard (Heidelberg, yeoman)		109. James Biddle (lawyer)		318. Conrad Stichter (weaver)	
70. William Parsons		153. Paul Farber (carpenter)		116. James Biddle		319. Valentine Stichter	
71. William Parsons		154. William Miller (carpenter)		121. Henry Stichter		329. Isaac Weidner	
72. Conrad Weiser		155. Sebastian Grauer (carpenter)		126. Simon Scherker		331. William Marck	
74. Abraham Brosius (tailor)		159. Henry Gaul (Green tavern)		131. Isaac Levan		333. Jacob Heller	
75. Jacob Bollinger		161. Henry Goodhart		138. Abraham Levan		341. Joseph Brendlinger	
76. Michael Gaul (Alsace, yeoman)		163. John Kissinger		143. John Steel		349. Peter Klinger	
77. Wm. Hattenstem (potter)		164. Peter Gaul (butcher)		156. Peter Weiser		350. Jacob Morgan	
79. John Weller		165. George Cunnlauf		172. George Saurbrey		356. 357. Frederick Volant	
81. Philip J. Moyer (baker)		166. Jacob Conrad (Virg., smith)		174. Adam Schuegel (tailor)		361. Martin E. Kraft	
82. Andrew Wolf (Cumru, yeoman)		167. Peter Baum (turner)		179. Hans Martin Gatten		384. Adam Reiffel	
85. Nich. Kennell (Gee-brewer)		168. Fredk. Goodhart (Alsace, yeoman)		183. George Hunn		387. Nicholas Sauer	
87. George Shiever		175. Peter Baum		189. Michael Rosch		392. 397. Adam Reiffel	
89. Christopher Witman (cordwainer)		180. John Kissinger		195. Lawrence Spats		402. Court-house and Prison	
90. Christopher Witman		190. Henry Gerritt (Alsace, yeoman)		197. Michael Fichtthorn		409. Christopher Spangler	
91. Michael Zister (saddler)		196. John Nicholas Yost (Cumru, inn-keeper)		198. William Cluse		413. Henry Schneider	
92. George Dougless (saddler)		199. George Chris. Spangler		201. Paul Durst		433. George Kappus (Mason)	
95. Fredk. Marsteller		200. Francis Elber		203. John Philip Klinger		438. George Kappus	
		206. Abraham Brosius		204. Alexander Klinger		490. 491. Francis Creek	
		208. Simon Scherker		208. Martin Moll		493. Francis Wenrich	
		271. Henry Geupel		209. Andrew Engel		498. Elizabeth Godschalk	
		275. Joseph Wilkinson					
		278. Isaac Levan		Lot	Patentee	Lot	Patentee
				88. Christian Bussy		395. Jacob Morgan	
				123. Philip Breitenbach		398. Francis Morgan	
				173. Nicholas Kern		388. Nicholas Seitzinger (inn-keeper)	
				205. Christopher Godschalk		406. 407. Lutheran Church (Reformed)	
				270. Frederick Fernsler		421. 424. Calvinist Church (Reformed)	
				285. Maria Barbara Bishoff		709. 512. Peter Haws	
				290. John Hartman (tailor)			
				293. Jacob Kappott (tiller)			

For the year 1753

For the year 1751



TOWN PLAN

GROUND-RENT.—When the lots were laid out, provision was made that each lot should be subject to a ground-rent of seven shillings, payable annually on the first day of May; but notwithstanding this provision, numerous lots were sold without the charge.



CONRAD WEISER STORE

By an Act of Assembly, passed Nov. 27, 1779, the estates of the Proprietaries in Pennsylvania became vested in the State and were placed at the disposal of the Legislature, the quit-rents were abolished, and a donation of £130,000 was made to their devisees and legatees.



FEDERAL INN

After the Revolution, this ground-rent on the lots in Reading was disregarded until about 1815, when it became a subject which agitated the lot-holders for a number of years. In that year, and again in 1818, the local attorney of the Penns required the delinquents to pay the rents due, otherwise he would cause their lots to be sold. In 1820, numerous re-

leases of ground-rent were executed by the attorney, and these were placed on record. In 1822, he notified the public that he would not settle any further claims for ground-rent, and his agency having been discontinued, the matter was dropped.

COUNTY SEAT.—By a petition presented to the Assembly at Philadelphia on Feb. 4, 1752, in behalf of the erection of a new county (Berks), it appears that Reading then contained 130 dwelling-houses, besides 41 stables and other out-houses; and 160 families, which consisted of 378 persons. It is believed that there were three small churches in the town at that time, Lutheran, Reformed, and Friends; all erected in 1751.

TOWN DISTRICT ESTABLISHED.—In 1760, the town and part of the township adjoining (Alsace) were erected into a district, called the "Township and District of Reading." The boundary lines were fixed by the court in 1761. They inclosed about 950 acres.

FIRST STORE.—The first business place was the store of Conrad Weiser on Penn Square above Fifth street. He purchased the lot (No. 3) in 1749, and obtained a patent in 1751. Under the conditions of sale, he doubtless erected a two-story stone building on it in 1750 and started a general store. He carried on business intercourse there with the Indians, and on this account the stand was given particular prominence. In 1769, Nicholas Keim became the owner. The Keims occupied it as a general hardware store for seventy years. Then the Stichters began, and they have been there since, now seventy years.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.—A Court-House was erected in 1762; a market-house in 1766; and a county jail in 1770; and in 1773, a fire company was organized, called the "Rainbow," which has maintained a successful existence until now.

OLDEST BUILDINGS.—Three old buildings, which were erected in this period of Reading, are still standing: two stories of the large hotel on the northwest corner of Fifth and Washington streets, erected by Michael Bright for a tavern in 1760; two-story stone building on the northwest corner of Penn Square, below Fifth street, erected in 1763 by Adam Witman for a tavern ("Federal Inn") and occupied by the Farmers' Bank since 1814; and two-story stone building on the northeast corner of Fifth and Washington streets, erected by county commissioners in 1770, occupied as a county jail until 1848, and since then for store purposes.

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS.—Three churches were established during this period: Friends, Lutheran and Reformed. The Protestant Episcopal and Roman Catholic denominations had no churches, but held religious services in the homes of certain members. Secular education was carried on in schools which were connected with the churches,

and also in several private schools. The pupils paid their teachers several cents a day. The Friends' school at Washington and Wood (Madison) streets was conducted for English education, the other schools were mostly for German education. There were no newspapers published at Reading then. The *Pennsylvania Gazette* and *Sauer's Journal* had a limited circulation.

NATIONALITY OF INHABITANTS.—The first inhabitants of Reading were mostly Germans. There were some English, and men of this nationality served in county offices through the influence and direction of the Penns until the Revolution; then men of the German nationality came to fill them and they have almost entirely continued to do so until now. This change was brought about by the determined action of the Germans in behalf of independence and representative government, the English having favored the British government, and discouraged the Revolution, on which account they were called "Tories."

FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.—The French and Indian war affected Reading more or less from 1755 to 1760. The inhabitants were excited and frequently alarmed for their safety during 1755, 1756 and 1757. But the Indians in their incursions never reached Reading. They confined their stealthy attacks and barbarous cruelties to the settlements along the Blue mountains.

The prominent men from Reading who were actively engaged in defensive operations were Conrad Weiser, Edward Biddle and George Nagel. In 1756, a company of grenadiers was stationed here for a time; also a company commanded by Conrad Weiser, consisting of two sergeants and twenty-eight privates. A number of interesting letters were sent from Reading during these years, describing the dangerous situation of affairs. No person from Reading was killed.

REVOLUTION.—The first public action at Reading in behalf of the Revolution was taken with much spirit on July 2, 1774, and from that time until the declaration of peace, in 1783, the residents displayed remarkable zeal for political independence and representative government. On the day named, a public meeting was held in the Court-House and appropriate resolutions were adopted, expressing sympathy with Boston and urging such measures as would settle with precision the rights and liberties of America. Delegates were appointed to attend the different conferences and earnest co-operation was manifested at all times for carrying on the war successfully.

In April, 1775, the people of the town raised two companies of infantry, and one of them, commanded by Cap. George Nagel, several months afterward marched to Cambridge and participated in the campaign at that place. Numerous other

companies were raised in response to repeated calls for troops. And great quantities of supplies were forwarded to the government, amounting to several hundred thousand dollars.

Reading was a prominent inland place for storing supplies of all kinds during that period, having been selected by the Board of War for its admirable situation; and prisoners of war were sent here in large numbers. The locality where they were quartered was called "Hessian Camp," after the Hessians taken at Trenton in December, 1776. It was situated to the east of the town, along the Hill road. In 1777, when the British entered Philadelphia, many residents of that city fled to Reading for safety.

Reading furnished many men who became very active in the service. Edward Biddle was one of the representatives from Pennsylvania in the First Continental Congress; Bodo Otto and Jonathan Potts were prominent surgeons; Mark Bird, Henry Haller, Nicholas Lotz, Joseph Hiester and Daniel Brodhead were colonels; and George Nagel, John Spohn, Peter Decker, Henry Christ, John Diehl, John Rightmyer and Peter Scull were captains. Edward Scull was secretary of the Board of War; James Read was an Executive Councillor, and register of the court of Admiralty; and Edward Burd was prothonotary of the Supreme court.

BOROUGH, 1783 TO 1847

BOROUGH ERECTED.—The town of Reading was incorporated into a borough on Sept. 12, 1783. It contained over four hundred taxables, and about twenty-one hundred inhabitants; and it was generally recognized then as the largest and most progressive inland town in the United States. Nine-tenths of the inhabitants were German. The principal officers were the chief burgess and associate, four assistant burgesses, two justices of the peace, high constable, treasurer, clerk, two supervisors and two assessors.

SURROUNDING TOWNS.—The county of Berks contained about twenty-five thousand population, and the surrounding towns in the county were Womelsdorf, fourteen miles west; Hamburg, seventeen miles north; Kutztown, seventeen miles northeast; Birdsboro, nine miles southeast; and Morgantown, fifteen miles south.

POST-OFFICE.—A post-office was established in 1793. A daily mail by stage was started in 1793, which continued until 1838, when the railroad was introduced, and increased facilities for transportation were afforded.

STAGE-COACH.—The stage-coach was introduced at Reading in 1789, and ran from Reading to Philadelphia. Afterward, lines were extended in different directions, and they were carried on until the railroads were constructed. The business was very brisk from 1826 to 1838.



BRIDGES.—A ferry was carried on at the "Ford" from 1783 to 1815, when a covered wooden bridge was constructed by the county commissioners. Another covered wooden bridge was constructed by the commissioners at Levan's Ferry, at the foot of Bingham street, in 1831. The first bridge across the river near Reading was on the road to Sunbury through Bern township, erected in 1810.

TURNPIKES.—While the subject of bridges was discussed by the people, another received their attention. It was that of turnpikes. These were extended over prominent highways, one to the north in 1805 called the "Centre," the second to the southeast in 1810 called the "Perkiomen," and the third to the west in 1817, called the "Berks and Dauphin."

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.—The Court-House continued in Penn Square until 1840; and the prison at Fifth and Washington streets until 1848. The "State House" for the county officers was erected on the northeast corner of Fifth street and Penn Square in 1791 and was used for this public purpose until 1840. A second market-house was erected in West Penn Square in 1799. Both market-houses were rebuilt in 1846. They had seventy stalls and 116 stands.

CANALS.—Two canals, leading from Reading, were constructed: The Schuylkill, extending along the river north to Pottsville and southeast to Philadelphia, in 1822; and the Union, extending west to Lebanon and Middletown, in 1828. Large quantities of goods, especially coal and lumber, were shipped over these canals. The enterprise was successful through this period, and contributed much toward the development of the borough.

RAILROAD.—The Philadelphia & Reading railroad was projected along the Schuylkill through Reading from Philadelphia to Pottsville in 1833. It was completed to Reading in 1838, and to Pottsville in 1842; and then it became an additional factor with the turnpikes and canals for great local progress.

BANKS.—A "Branch" of the Bank of Pennsylvania was established at Reading in 1808 (in the building occupied by the Union Bank), and carried on successfully until its suspension in 1857. The Farmers Bank was organized in 1814, and it has been maintained successfully ever since, now over ninety years, and in the same building. The Eckerts were prominently identified with it from 1838 to 1908. A third bank was organized in 1836, but it continued only eight years. It was called the "Berks County Bank."

PANIC OF 1837.—A money panic arose in the borough in 1837, owing to a suspension of prominent banks in the large cities, but the local business men published a notice in which they expressed entire confidence in the Reading banks and a willingness to accept their notes in payment of debts and merchandise. But the scarcity of money compelled certain merchants to resort to an expedient for a circulating medium by issuing notes for small

sums, which were called by the people "Shinplasters," "Rag Barons" and "Hickory Leaves." And the borough council, to relieve the community in this behalf, issued loan certificates in denominations of five, ten, twenty-five and fifty cents, and one, two and three dollars, redeemable Aug. 1, 1838. The whole issue amounted to \$25,000. They were loaned to business men on approved security and subsequently redeemed.

NEWSPAPERS.—A number of newspapers were started in this period. The first was in 1789. In 1796, there were three others, the *Reading Herald* (English); the *Reading Adler* (German), published until now; and the *Weekly Advertiser* (English), published until 1816, when the *Berks and Schuylkill Journal* (English) took its place, which is still issued. The *Reading Courier* (German) was issued from 1816 to 1826; the *Chronicle of the Times* (English), from 1826 to 1835; *Berks County Press* (English), from 1835 to 1865; *Liberal Observer* (German), from 1839 to 1864; *Reading Gazette and Democrat* (English), from 1840 to 1878, when the *Reading Weekly Eagle* was substituted in its place, and this has been published until now; *Old Berks* (German), from 1840 to 1848, when it was transferred to Pottsville and the name changed to *Pottsville Adler*. Several others were started but they had a short existence. The spirit for writing and publishing during this period was very strong. The editors exhibited much courage in ventilating their opinions on political and social topics.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.—Besides the three denominations mentioned in the first period, the Roman Catholics and Protestant Episcopalians came to erect churches in the second period, and also the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, Universalists and English Lutherans. Schools were carried on successfully, as before until 1835, when the public system was introduced; and in 1838 the first public school buildings were erected.

INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS.—During this period, industrial affairs became the prominent feature of Reading. The small shops were developed into large factories and mills, and the capital invested in such establishments increased from several hundred dollars to many thousands. The energy of certain influential men was directed chiefly toward the manufacture of iron, and this stimulated various other enterprises, particularly in the line of building operations. The discovery of coal and the application of steam to motive power for operating machinery were the direct causes of this marked improvement, and the canal and railroad were natural results from their introduction and increasing use. The large increase in population must be attributed to them, the growth from 1830 to 1840 having been over 43 per cent. and from 1840 to 1850 over 87 per cent. The country districts of Berks county increased only 21 per cent. during the former decade, and only 19 per cent. during the latter.

WATER COMPANY.—In 1821, a water company was organized to supply the people of the borough with water. A reservoir was constructed at the head of Penn street, and the water from "Hampten Spring" was conveyed into it by means of wooden pipes, and thence distributed through the place. In 1833, the investment was estimated at \$25,000, and two hundred and fifty families were supplied. The spring had a daily flow of one hundred thousand gallons, and the reservoir had a capacity of one thousand hogsheads. Pumps continued to be used in all parts of the borough.

LIGHTING.—The light was obtained from tallow candles; also from oil and camphene used in lamps. The streets were not lighted. Public buildings were seldom occupied in the night for meetings or entertainments; and there were no halls.

FIRE COMPANIES.—Three fire companies were organized in addition to the Rainbow: Junior, in 1813; Reading, in 1819; and Neversink, in 1829.

STREET NAMES.—Upon the laying out of the town, the streets were named as follows: *East and West*—Penn, extending through the center of the town; north of Penn, Thomas and Margaret; and south of Penn, Richard and Hamilton. *North and South*—King, Queen, Callowhill, Prince, Duke, Earl, Clement, Lord and Vigour.

These names were changed by the borough council in 1833, and those substituted were as follows. Penn having been retained: North of Penn—Liberty, Washington and Walnut; South of Penn—Cherry, Franklin and Chestnut; Across Penn—Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh; and what had been called for a time Bridge and Treat, were changed to Front and Second.

In 1845, council named the following alleys extending north from Liberty: Pear, Thorn, Rose, Ash, Church, Reed, Poplar, Cedar, Moss, and Black; and south from Cherry: Oak, Apple, Carpenter, Wood, Pear, Plum, Lemon, Peach, Orange, and Maple. Laurel and Willow streets were also named then. Bingaman street took its name and diagonal direction from the northerly line of the patent to Peter Bingaman: that part beyond Tenth street having been vacated by an Act of Assembly, passed May 8, 1850.

In 1832, the streets were graded according to regulation by Enoch Lewis, under the direction of council.

EARLY EXHIBITIONS.—Exhibitions were given at Reading at an early day.

In October, 1791, a camel was exhibited at Jacob Grant's tavern.

In January, 1792, McGrath's Company of comedians from Maryland and Virginia rendered the "Tragedy of Douglass," "Farce of Barnaby Rattle," and other plays.

In January, 1799, a man named Salanca gave a "curious exhibition" in Barr's ballroom, consisting

of legerdemain performances by himself, tricks by a learned dog, and a display of fire-works. Tickets for adults, 50 cents; for children, 25 cents.

In June, 1808, an elephant eight years old and seven feet high was exhibited at the public-house of Daniel Feger; advertised as the *only elephant then in the country*. Admission, 25 cents.

In November, 1813, Purdy, Carley & Bailey exhibited a menagerie of thirty living wild animals, including a lion and lioness, Arabian camels (male and female), llamas (male and female), hyena, kangaroo, tiger, leopard and panther.

On Aug. 1, 1815, a whale was exhibited at the public house of William Jones; weight five thousand pounds. Admission, 12½ cents; children, half price. This whale was caught in the Delaware river at Trenton, on Nov. 11, 1814.

In December, 1838, William Paulin, accompanied by a lady, ascended from Reading in a balloon named "Comet"; and in the following year he made two successful ascensions.

Circuses gave numerous exhibitions and they were well patronized; and traveling dramatic troupes visited Reading, remaining a week at a time.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.—John Penn arrived at Reading on April 7, 1788, while on his way from Philadelphia to Harrisburg. He remained two days and expressed himself as much pleased with the town. He stayed at Witman's tavern (southeast corner Fifth and Franklin streets), and he regarded the accommodations as worthy of a respectable country town. He dined heartily on catfish, which were plentiful in the river. The next day, he dined with James Biddle, Esq., and a number of citizens called to pay their respects. He came here to look after his property. On April 9th, he visited Gen. Thomas Mifflin, on the latter's farm (now Alms-House) and took breakfast and dinner with the family. After dinner, he proceeded on his way.

President Washington visited Reading on Oct. 1, 1794, while on his way from Philadelphia to Carlisle during the Whiskey Insurrection. His presence caused much social excitement. During his sojourn, he stayed at the "Federal Inn," where many people called to pay their respects. A military parade was given under the command of Col. Nicholas Lotz (who had taken an active part in the Revolution) to signalize the occasion, and the distinguished visitor reviewed the troops. The "Reading Volunteers" (a company of militia) escorted him on the way, and at Carlisle they were retained as his body-guard. When Washington died, in 1799, all the people mourned his loss. The newspapers were printed with heavy black borders; and the people of the borough, to demonstrate in a public manner their great sorrow for his death and great reverence for his name, held funeral services in Trinity Lutheran Church on Sunday, Jan. 5, 1800. A procession was solemnly formed on Penn Square, and a great concourse of people,



under the head of the militia of the borough, marched to the church.

President Van Buren visited Reading on June 25, 1839, while on his way from Harrisburg to Easton. A special committee met him at Womelsdorf; and many citizens from different parts of the county formed a procession on the turnpike some distance west of the Harrisburg bridge, and joined the committee in escorting the distinguished visitor to Reading. He was pleased to receive such an expressive welcome from the thriving town on the Schuylkill, which three years before had given him a strong political support, nearly four to one against Gen. W. H. Harrison. The procession paraded through the principal streets. The president rode on a fine cream-colored horse, and his graceful horsemanship attracted general attention. He sojourned at Herr's hotel. During the evening, a reception was held at the residence of Samuel Bell, Esq., where many citizens assembled to show him honor. He left for Easton, via Kutztown, on the following morning, a number of prominent citizens having accompanied him as far as Kutztown. In the previous year, he had paid a high compliment to the borough by selecting Hon. Henry A. Muhlenberg to be the first minister plenipotentiary to Austria.

Gen. Winfield Scott visited Reading on Saturday, May 21, 1842, during a great "Military Encampment" comprising fourteen companies of militia from Berks, Lehigh and Schuylkill counties, of which four were from Reading, numbering 157 men. He was accompanied by his aids. They were met at the railroad station (Seventh and Chestnut streets) by a detachment of militia, and escorted to Herr's hotel, where they were cordially welcomed and properly entertained. Many citizens followed the parade. On Monday (23d), he reviewed the troops, and left on the next day for Danville, to review a similar encampment. During the day, medals were awarded for skillful shooting. He was much pleased with the discipline and appearance of the encampment; and he paid a special compliment to the Reading Artillerists. The encampment was held on Penn Common and was the first at Reading.

LIBERTY-POLES OF 1799.—During the administration of President Adams, Congress caused a direct tax to be levied upon houses, which was objectionable to many persons. In eastern Pennsylvania, an insurrection arose in 1799, and liberty-poles were erected to declare the feeling of opposition. A number of them were erected at and near Reading. While a company of soldiers were on their way through Reading to Bucks county, several of these poles were cut down, and the conduct of the soldiers was severely criticised by an editorial in the *Adler*. When the company reached Reading on its way back to Lancaster, the Captain, hearing of this criticism, demanded the name of the author.

It was refused, and the proprietor of the newspaper was taken to Penn Square and publicly flogged.

ENGLISH WAR OF 1812-15.—After the Revolution, the British government conducted itself in an offensive manner persistently until the complaints became too loud and the injuries too grievous to be endured any longer, when President Madison made them subjects for his message to Congress on June 1, 1812, and a declaration of war was issued. Berks county supplied twelve organized companies in response to the call for troops. The companies of Capt. Thomas Moore and Capt. Daniel deB. Keim were composed entirely of men from Reading; and the greater part of the men in the companies of Capt. Jacob Marshall and Capt. George Marx were also from Reading. The companies left in August, 1814, and performed military duty at York, Pa., but they did not participate in any engagements with the enemy. Some of the men remained four months, others six months. Peace was concluded Dec. 24, 1814. When the event was made known at Reading, the citizens signaled it by shooting off cannon during the day and by a grand illumination at night. During the war, when the British approached Philadelphia, a number of English families who lived there were compelled to move away at least fifty miles, and on that account they came to Reading. This was in August, 1814.

MEXICAN WAR.—War between the United States and Mexico was declared in May, 1846. The chief burgess of Reading presided at a public meeting, held on May 20th, at which the government was sustained. Three companies of men from Reading tendered their services, and one of them was accepted, the Reading Artillerists, commanded by Capt. Thomas S. Leoser. This company left on Dec. 26th for Mexico, and participated in the battles of Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Chapultepec and Belen Gate. They returned July 29, 1848, and were given a brilliant reception.

CITY, 1847 TO 1909

READING IN 1847.—Reading was incorporated into a city on March 16, 1847. At that time it was in a flourishing state. Shops, factories and stores were numerous. The population numbered about twelve thousand. The tendency of local development was to the south of Penn street and to the west of Ninth. At that time there were thirteen churches, seven to the north of Penn. and six to the south.

The railroad deserves especial mention. A decade had not fully elapsed since its introduction, yet it demonstrated to a remarkable degree its power in accelerating the growth of everything. Another railroad had been projected in 1836 to extend westward to Harrisburg, but it was not as yet begun. The canals and stages occupied a prominent position. The former consisted of two lines, the Schuylkill and the Union; and the latter of three lines, to Easton, Harrisburg, and Lancaster.



A prominent social movement was then perceptible. This was the secret society, and though first started in 1794, it had not begun to make a marked impression till toward the close of the second period of Reading. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was particularly active. As a beneficial organization, it extended its branches in various directions with remarkable earnestness and success.

The fire company was active. Four volunteer companies were conducted successfully, Rainbow, Junior, Reading and Neversink, partly through pecuniary assistance from the municipal government, but mainly from the spontaneous efforts of their members.

The system of common school education was actively conducted, there being 17 schools, 31 teachers, and 2,064 scholars. Five newspapers were published successfully. Advertising was a prominent feature in all of them. The political sentiment of the inhabitants was favorable to the Whigs in local affairs, but to the Democrats in State and national.

The public markets were largely attended. The market-men came regularly twice a week, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Councils had proposed no improvement beyond the advantages first afforded in 1766; and rents were still collected.

The semi-annual fairs were kept up. Dancing, drinking and fighting were conspicuous features. The militia spirit maintained its activity; and exercise was carried on annually in May, on what was known as "Battalion-Day."

Most of the people were domestic in their daily life. Gardening was carried on either in lots, upon which the dwellings stood, or in out-lots. Fruit trees were numerous, and plums, peaches, pears, cherries, quinces and apples were plentiful. "Preserving" fruit was common, not "canning" as now. And nearly every family boiled apple-butter in an open fire place in the fall of the year. Home-made sausage, pudding, scrapple, hams, mince, and sauerkraut were in every household. About Christmas time the cellars of housekeepers were well stocked.

The fuel for domestic purposes such as cooking and heating was almost wholly wood, and, this was consumed in a "ten-plate" stove; and sawing of cord-wood by hand was a common occupation. Coal had been known to the community for nearly forty years, but it was not used for domestic purposes, its consumption having been principally in public places, shops and factories.

The light was produced from fluid, oil and tallow, even common fat, the first two having been used in stores, and the last two in dwellings, especially of the poorer classes of inhabitants. The streets were not lighted up in the evening. Lanterns were carried to shed light upon the roadway. There were no street-crossings. The customs of the residents had not yet come to convert night into day for amusements of various kinds. Dramatic entertainments were just starting out, and the demands for an improved light were gradually growing greater.

The town was not large. The principal portion lay between Walnut street on the north and Chestnut on the south; Ninth street on the east and Third on the west. Business of all kinds was done almost entirely during the daytime, and merchants derived their chief support from the farmers. Two constables were watchmen of the night, and for several hours before and after midnight they called out the hour and the condition of the weather in a monotonous, low tone of voice.

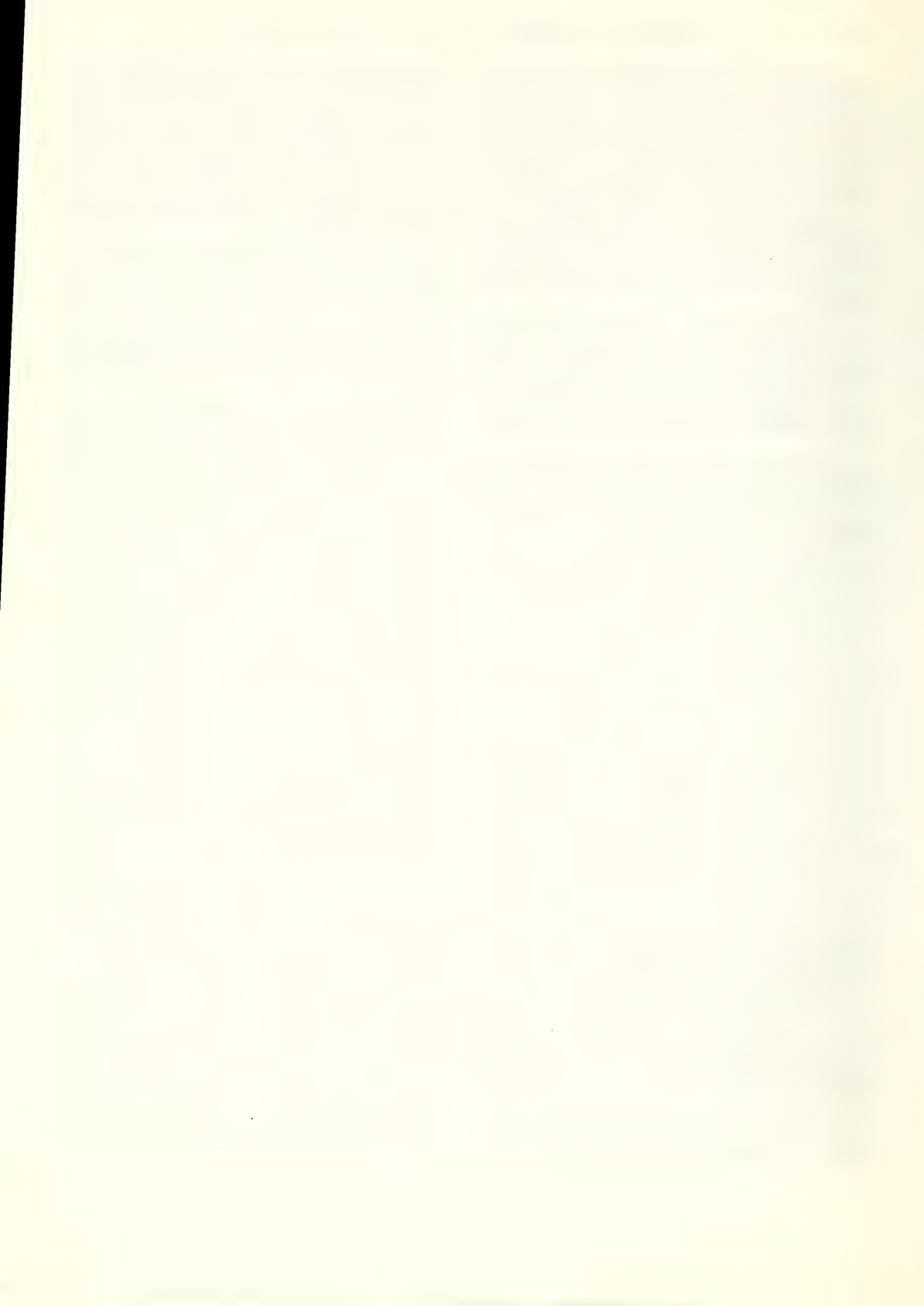
The pump was used throughout the place, notwithstanding the general supply of superior water afforded by the Reading Water Company. It was convenient in every block, if not on or near every street corner. At least one hundred pumps were in daily use. Penn street was especially well supplied. Ice had come to be furnished in small quantities for about ten years, but not for drinking purposes.

The events which have transpired since the incorporation of Reading as a city, have been so numerous that a narration of them must be necessarily brief. They will be mentioned by decades in the order of their occurrence as near as possible, referring the reader to other parts of this chapter for a more extended description of them.

1847-57.—During the decade from 1847 to 1857, business affairs grew more active, and continued to do so till toward the close, when a panic ensued. Gas was introduced for lighting purposes in 1848. The first large hall was erected by the Odd Fellows in 1847, which provided a meeting place for the society and accommodations for the public in respect to entertainments. The Charles Evans cemetery was founded in 1848; the Trinity Lutheran and Roman Catholic cemeteries on the northern slope of Mt. Neversink were laid out in 1849; and the Aulenbach cemetery in 1851. Interments were then made in these cemeteries; and the remains of many buried persons, in graveyards in the central parts of the city, were transferred to them. Numerous buildings were erected, both dwellings and industrial establishments, the latter including prominent enterprises which have been continued until now.

Two railroads were constructed in 1857, the East Penn to the northeast, and the Lebanon Valley to the west. The militia system was active and battalion days were devoted to military exercise. The fair days at the market-houses passed away without regret from any one, and in 1852, an agricultural society began holding a county fair for an improved annual exhibition of goods, live stock, etc. An exciting topic at this time was the discovery of gold in California, and several parties went there from Reading, but their discouraging letters dispelled the charm, and the excitement subsided. Various political questions agitated the people, and one of them, that of slavery, caused the Presidential campaign of 1856 to be particularly enthusiastic.

A public high school was established in 1852, and the taxpayers realized the promises of its projectors in affording advanced education to such as attended



the common schools. The greatest freshet in the Schuylkill Valley occurred in 1850, and the people of Reading suffered damages estimated at more than \$500,000. On Jan. 8, 1854, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company machine shops on Seventh between Franklin and Chestnut streets were destroyed by fire, causing a loss of \$50,000, which was the most destructive fire at Reading until that time; and on April 20, 1857, the roof of the same shop broke down for a space of 40 by 180 feet by reason of a great fall of snow on the day before (Sunday), followed by rain, this happening while three hundred workmen were underneath, all of whom escaped unhurt.

1857-67.—In the decade from 1857 to 1867, the Civil war was the most engrossing subject which engaged the attention of the people. Many companies of men were enlisted here, and the excitement on many occasions was intense. The people of the city supported the government devotedly and liberally in its great efforts to suppress the Rebellion. In 1863, houses were numbered by councils by an admirable system through the efforts of Jacob Knabb, postmaster, to facilitate and dispatch the delivery of letters. The streets were regulated by a topographical survey from 1864 to 1867, and the fixing of lines and grades encouraged building operations, especially in the northern section of the city. The waterworks were purchased by Councils in 1865. Efforts were made to improve the city charter by amendments in 1861 and 1864.

The Firemen's Union was organized in 1861. The co-education of boys and girls in the high school was started in 1859, and all the wards were consolidated into one district for school purposes in 1864. The people were active and energetic in every department of life, and the wealth of the community was increased millions of dollars. Weekly newspapers became more thoroughly circulated, and the daily newspaper was successfully established in 1858. Postal facilities were increased to the great convenience of the people; and another railroad was extended to the southwest in 1864, affording direct communication with Lancaster and Columbia. Political excitement reached the highest point which the community was able to bear without resulting in a public disturbance.

1867-77.—In the third decade from 1867 to 1877, general enterprise was very active in the beginning and continued so for several years, but then it began to decline and finally showed marked effects from the financial panic which prevailed throughout the country. Great fires at Chicago in 1871, and at Boston in 1872, destroyed much property, resulting in losses amounting to more than \$200,000,000, and a large proportion had to be paid by fire insurance companies, located in different parts of the country, which caused great embarrassment. It seemed that some evil genius hovered over this community also, because there were many acts of incendiarism in the most populous parts of the city about that time,

but the volunteer fire companies by their vigilance prevented serious losses.

In 1872, two steam fire engines were added to the fire department, and in 1873 the electric fire alarm system was introduced, which immediately demonstrated its great value. The old market-houses were removed in 1871, and private buildings for market purposes were substituted. The limits of the city were extended northward in 1871, increasing the area to more than 3,200 acres. A large modern hall for amusements was erected in 1872 on the north side of East Penn Square, which afforded increased opportunities for witnessing dramatic and operatic performances. The postal card was introduced in 1873, and the business of the post-office was largely increased. The P. & R. R. Co. erected a large and commodious "Union Station" at the junction of its several lines of railroad, which was opened for travel on Aug. 3, 1874.

The general Act of 1874, for the government of cities of the third class—which included Reading—was accepted; the water of Antietam creek was appropriated by the city and a storage reservoir was constructed in Alsace township with a capacity for 30,000,000 gallons. Railroad communication was extended by completing the road to Wilmington to the south, and to Slatington to the north; and a street railway was introduced along Penn and Sixth streets. The "Centennial Exhibition" at Philadelphia was a prominent subject for several years, especially from May 10th to Nov. 10th, 1876; and the display of productions by Reading manufacturers and of educational work by the Reading school district was highly complimented. The management of the schools by the first city superintendent, elected in 1867, proved very successful, and during the decade ten large brick buildings were erected.

In October, 1869, there was an unusual freshet, the river rising twenty-three feet and inflicting damages to the shops along the river amounting to \$50,000. On Sunday, June 26, 1870, the P. & R. Co. car shops at Sixth and Oley streets (168 by 710 feet) were destroyed by fire, causing a loss of more than \$100,000; and on Jan. 16, 1872, there was another large and costly fire at Fifth and Penn streets, which destroyed Stichter's hardware store, Ebner's building, old "State-House," and other buildings on Fifth street, resulting in a loss exceeding \$100,000. The building and savings associations were in a flourishing condition.

The political sentiment of the people manifested a great change, and the process of changing from the Democratic party to the Republican by 1876 had developed a high degree of excitement, the election returns of that year causing the loudest demonstrations ever witnessed at Reading. Enterprise reached out in different branches of industry, giving employment to a largely increased number of mechanics and laborers. Merchants showed a high appreciation of the value of advertising in local newspapers, and as they attracted the residents to their stores, the Philadelphia merchants did the same



to theirs by advertising their goods in the Reading newspapers.

1877-87.—The fourth decade from 1877 to 1887 went far in advance of the previous decades in public affairs, private enterprises and social amusements. It started with a serious disturbance on account of the labor question, which culminated in a riot on July 23, 1877, causing the death of ten persons, and the wounding of thirty-nine, and the loss of the large bridge across the Schuylkill on the Lebanon Valley railroad. The riot took place along Seventh street at and above Penn. The strike was general, extending through Pennsylvania and other States. In the previous decade, allusion was made to the panic, but it did not seriously affect Reading. However, conditions generally grew worse and on Nov. 18, 1877, the Reading Savings Bank, Bushong's Bank, and Dime Savings Bank suspended, which caused the greatest financial excitement that Reading ever felt.

An earnest beginning for a city park was made in 1878, by cleaning up and improving the triangular part of the Common which adjoined Perkiomen avenue and Hill road, this having been done by taxpayers in the vicinity, who raised over \$6,000 by voluntary contributions; and in 1884, councils instituted legal steps to recover that part of the Common which had been occupied by the Berks County Agricultural Society since 1852, and they were successful. The co-education of boys and girls was found unsatisfactory, and in 1881, after a trial of twenty-two years, they were separated, the girls remaining in the high school building. In 1883 the commodious Boys' High School was erected, and then the school controllers transferred their meeting place and offices to it. In that year, the county bridges at Reading were declared free, and electric power began to be supplied for shops and factories.

The waterworks were much enlarged in 1880 and 1884, increasing the storage over fifty million gallons. The building and savings associations were in a flourishing condition, twenty-five having been kept up whose payments and investments ran into millions of dollars. Societies of all kinds were very active, particularly secret, beneficial and social, numbering altogether 150, and their membership including almost every man of age in the community. Factories of all kinds were carried on extensively, especially for hats, stoves, cigars and building materials. And one of the most important events in the decade was the construction of the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad in 1884, and the direct connection with the Pennsylvania railroad system thereby afforded. And at the close of the decade, three additional banks and two trust companies were started; the street railway companies were consolidated in the United Traction Company with over fifty miles of track, carrying annually over five million passengers, and the Reading Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital

were erected. The major part of the population shifted north of Penn street.

1887-97.—The fifth decade from 1887 to 1897 was more active than the previous decades in every department of life. Progress was remarkable, exceeding everything in the previous history of the place. The supply of water was largely increased by the introduction of the water from the Maiden creek; Penn Common was improved year after year until it came to be the most attractive spot within the limits of the city; the school buildings were increased in number and improved in character, and so were the churches (twenty new buildings having been erected), the moneys appropriated and collected for these two purposes surpassing all previous efforts; the United States government supplied a superior building for post-office purposes; the subject of streets and sewers was agitated for a long while with apparently little progress in behalf of these public improvements, but it prevailed eventually, and the years 1896 and 1897 became notable, a million dollars having been expended in their construction; public demonstrations, parades, excursions, and conventions were unusual in number and character, which developed the reputation of Reading as a place of industry, substantial wealth and superior advantages to a remarkable degree.

The street railway system was extended very much, and the mountain roads were established. Electricity as a motive power for running the street cars was applied to the cars on the East Reading and the Reading and South Western lines of street railway in 1890 and 1891, and it was extended to all the lines in the city in 1893; and it came to be more generally used for lighting public and private places and for power in shops and stores. It caused the extension of street railways into the rural districts to the east and south of Reading.

Industrial establishments for the manufacture of various articles were erected, especially for steel, hosiery, cigars and bicycles, affording employment to several thousand additional persons, and yielding to the community over a million dollars in wages, and reaching out in trading relations with all parts of the world. Over five thousand bicycles came into general use in Reading. The greatest fires in the history of the city occurred, the losses reaching a million dollars, three worthy of special mention being the Carpenter Steel Mill, Reading Hardware Works, and Sternbergh Nut and Bolt Works; and the city was visited by the greatest storm in 1889, it having demolished the silk mill and part of the East Penn railroad shop, killing twenty-two persons and injuring more than one hundred.

Steam heating came to be supplied in the central part of town along Sixth, Fifth and Penn streets, and to be gradually introduced in dwellings. General laundry work received encouragement; and the washing machine was being substituted in the place of the wash-board and tub to reduce manual labor in domestic life. And planing-mill work was



much increased in supplying doors, windows, frames, etc., for building operations. Cold storage was introduced and the use of artificial ice much appreciated; and the creamery as an institution received greater recognition.

Four noteworthy large industrial plants were started, the Reading Iron Company, Reading Paper Mills, the Carpenter Steel Mill and the Silk Mill. Department stores were enlarged. Vitrified brick began to be used for buildings and pavements; and the value of concrete work and cement more appreciated. Telephone wires began to be laid in conduits in the central portions of the city and the use of the telephone was very much increased and extended; two popular amusement halls were established, Rajah Temple and Auditorium; also three more charitable institutions, and the Y. M. C. A. hall.

Building and loan associations were still kept up, over fifty having been in successful operation. A board of city assessors was established for the uniform assessment of real estate; and also a board of public works for the supervision of public improvements. Five more wards were erected, making the total number sixteen. Building operations added several thousand dwellings to the city; and the great increase in the assessed value of property caused the total value to surpass the total value of all the country districts taken together.

Notwithstanding this apparent improvement and enrichment of the community, the financial condition of the country was extremely distressing during the last four years, owing to the suspension of manufactures and the closing of industrial plants of every description, which caused innumerable failures and enormous losses. This was brought about by a change in respect to the tariff. The previous term of four years had been favorable to it, but the term during these four years was unfavorable. The business affairs at Reading kept moving right along nevertheless. Fortunately, the large iron plants and diversified industrial enterprises were too strong and sound to be shaken.

All our financial institutions had the unqualified confidence of the people, and they sustained their patrons with commendable courage and indulgence as well as each other, thereby displaying in a remarkable manner the great utility of well-conducted banks in such a crisis. In looking for the reason of the onward movement of our local affairs in spite of adverse circumstances during that trying period, it was found that the banks were the stronghold which enabled our manufacturers and merchants to stand the extraordinary strain; and therefore this special mention of it is made.

1897-1900.—The decade just closed from 1897 to the present time also embraced a number of remarkable improvements in the further development of Reading.

The population started with about 70,000, and the annual increase was about 2,500. An earnest and successful effort was made for improved streets

by laying down asphaltum and vitrified brick on a concrete foundation at the close of the previous decade, starting on Sixth street and Court street at the Court-House, and then on Penn street, and extending to other streets until 1902, with a total expenditure of \$350,000, and accomplishing a total length of ten miles. The marked improvement was highly appreciated by the taxpayers.

While this was going on, sewers were laid for surface, and also house, drainage, embracing the city from Washington street south and Eleventh street west; the former having been paid by the public at an expense of \$250,000, and the latter by the abutting property holders at an expense of \$231,000 (excepting the cost of the mains, about \$50,000). This was necessary on account of the largely increased flow of water in heavy rain-storms which flooded the streets and damaged the adjoining properties; particularly along Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth streets to the south of Penn; and also on account of the commodious and costly buildings for business purposes then erected, in which many hundreds of persons assembled daily.

The enlarged "Mansion House," and the department stores of C. K. Whitner & Co. and Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, and the office buildings of George F. Baer, Esq., and the Colonial Trust Company, are worthy of special mention. The Pennsylvania Trust Company had shortly before put up the first five-story building and Mr. Miltimore Morgan had enlarged the "Mansion House" to the first six-story building; but Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart reached the seventh story and the Colonial Trust Company the ninth story, thereby giving the city a truly metropolitan appearance.

In the erection of the last two mammoth buildings, structural iron was first used for building purposes at Reading, and while the imposing framework was being put together, hundreds of people looked on in amazement not knowing which to admire most, the genius of the contractor or the skill and composure of the working-men. And here these great structures stand on Penn Square, in the very center of mercantile and financial affairs, as monuments to local foresight and enterprise.

The National Convention of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America in the city in 1897 was a noteworthy affair and until then certainly the grandest public demonstration ever witnessed in the history of the community. But in 1898 even this demonstration was eclipsed by the celebration of the "Sesqui-Centennial of Reading." The local pride of the people asserted itself for a whole week in June, and the very sun in the sky seemed to co-operate with their joyful, determined, enthusiastic spirit in making the wonderful and praiseworthy undertaking a glorious success. Though ten years have elapsed since then, the sights were so pleasing and the sounds so inspiring that the people, both old and young, here and elsewhere, who witnessed the celebration, still talk of it with delightful recollections.



The building operations were active through the entire period, and these were particularly encouraged in the northern part of the city by the costly enlargement of the P. & R. R. Co. shops. The annual increase of new dwelling-houses was maintained from year to year; and during 1905 more were erected in the city than in any year before.

The extension of the street railway system in all directions stands out prominently in this period. Its successful management undoubtedly contributed a large share in our local prosperity. Besides busy industrial plants of all kinds and sufficient dwelling-houses, the prompt and convenient transportation of the working-people and their families in and to all parts of the city, from early in the morning until late at night, had been a subject of serious consideration, but it was appreciated and the demand satisfied. As we find iron, coal and steam inter-related very closely in our early local development, so do we also find shops, homes and street railways equally inter-related in our most recent development. Trolley extensions were made to the north, east and south, thereby increasing the facilities to the country people for reaching the county-seat with great convenience at greatly reduced cost of travel, and at frequent intervals, and quite naturally they led to the laying out of suburban towns, and many persons soon appreciated the desirability of these towns as dwelling places.

The Reading Library had been carried on with more or less uncertainty since its reorganization in 1868; but in the beginning of this decade it became a free institution through the liberality of some of our citizens, and the enthusiastic spirit then displayed has continued until now, with an ever increasing interest in its success. And the Historical Society was again revived and a strong interest shown in its welfare. The members secured a building, after having held their meetings for several years in the Court-House, and the nucleus of a library of historical works was collected.

A new feeling was developed for outdoor exercise which culminated in the organization of a golf club and within several years a fine property was secured. The "Berkshire Club" became recognized at once for its social prominence. Bowling was also prominent and several new alleys were established. It was indulged in by a considerable number of young and middle-aged men, and also some young women. Clubs were organized and much rivalry was shown in competing games. Basketball was another indoor sport which won much attention; and there was a revival of interest in baseball. Card-playing was indulged in by all classes of society, with many devotees at progressive euchre, duplicate whist, and bridge. And the patronage of the theatre and of amusements of all kinds, such as fairs, balls and athletics, was never so extensive as at the close of the period; indeed, it had become so prominent by children of both sexes under fourteen years of age as to excite public criticism.

The one great channel which made this high degree of prosperity so continuous was the satisfactory condition and superb co-operative management of our financial institutions. Their total resources had multiplied gradually until they were in excess of \$23,000,000; and by the daily handling of this large sum of money, both in receiving it and then in paying it out by checking and cashing, in amounts ranging from a few dollars to many thousands, from all parts of Pennsylvania and of the United States, as well as in the city itself, our nine banks and five trust companies had come to do an annual volume of business which reached the enormous total of \$600,000,000. The annual check exchanges of these depositories at their clearing-house for the year 1908 footed up \$64,652,121; and the exchanges for the month of January, 1909, amounted to \$5,770,561, an increase of one million dollars more than the exchanges for the month of January, 1905. For an inland city, competing with metropolitan places at tide-water whose resources are superabundant and whose influence for business is both powerful and far-reaching, this was truly surprising.

Paving additional streets with vitrified brick was continued during the latter half of this decade; additional sections of the Rose Valley creek sewer were constructed; and the improved beds on Fritz's Island for filtering the house-sewage were established, changing from sand filtration to sprinkling filtration at an expense of over \$200,000, and winning the praise of the best sanitary engineers in the country, who showed much critical interest in their construction.

Arrangements were made by the water board for establishing two large additional filtering beds for filtering the water of Bernhart's creek and Maiden creek at a cost of \$500,000, which will largely increase the supply of good and clean drinking water for the citizens; and the Spring street subway was constructed in 1907-08-09 at a cost of \$150,000, which opened a safe passageway at all times between the northeastern and northwestern sections of the city. Building operations continued active and extensive during the decade, but in 1908 they fell off about three-fourths on account of the depressed condition of the times.

Roller-skating was revived at the close of the decade and many persons became as enthusiastic on the subject as others had become over thirty years before; and the five-cent moving picture shows and cheap vaudeville entertainments were introduced, which immediately won great favor and patronage.

The suburban towns (whose occupants are almost entirely employed in Reading) have shown a marked increase in dwellings and population, and four additional boroughs to the west and southwest have been erected.

RIOT IN 1877.—The great riot at Reading was an extraordinary event in the history of our community. On Saturday, July 21, 1877, great excite-



ment prevailed in the city, owing to the general strike of railroad trainmen in the following States: New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri. The central point of excitement here was at Seventh and Penn streets, where many men gathered to discuss the situation. At that time the excitement at Pittsburg was intense, ending shortly thereafter in the great destruction of railroad property, which consisted of buildings, cars, etc., and in the loss of at least a score of lives.

On the next day, the situation was naturally worse owing to the news from Pittsburg, and more men crowded at the point named; but there was no disorderly demonstration of any kind during the day. By 10 o'clock in the evening, the crowd had moved to the passenger station, where the men greeted the last train from Philadelphia (10:30) with shouts and yells. Then the excitement became uncontrollable. The crowd moved westwardly on the Lebanon Valley railroad, and fire and destruction of property followed. Railroad tracks were torn up, and certain cabooses and freight cars were set on fire which resulted in a general alarm of fire, and the response of the fire department; and during the terrible excitement in and about the "cut," near Sixth street, whither all attention had been directed, the costly railroad bridge, which spanned the river within a mile to the west, was set on fire and entirely destroyed. The bright flames, which flashed high into the darkness of the night, attracted thousands of people to the place.

The news shocked the whole community. Crowds had gathered on Saturday, innocently, apparently, but unlawfully, without any earnest movement from the police to disperse them, and property had been destroyed on Sunday. On Monday, the newspapers were almost wholly taken up with vivid descriptions of the excited condition of the community and of the destructive work of incendiaries. Throughout the day, great excitement prevailed, and as the night approached it grew greater. The four corners of Seventh and Penn streets were again crowded hour after hour, subject to a weak protest; but without any determined effort from municipal or county authorities to clear the highway. Trains were stopped, coal cars detached and many tons of coal dumped upon the track for several hundred feet.

With this state of affairs, the 6 o'clock passenger train approached the city around the bend of "Neversink," and the shrill whistle of the engine never sounded in such a piercing manner. The engineer remained bravely at his post; the command was given to proceed forward at full speed, and forward indeed he directed his engine at the rate of forty-five miles an hour over the blockaded track. Fortunately the train passed through safely, but the people scattered pell-mell for their lives, coals were thrown high into the air, and a dense cloud of black dust obscured everything round about for a time. At the passenger station, great excitement

arose immediately after the arrival of this train. The next down train was stopped in the cut, and this daring proceeding drew the crowd from the depot and intensified the excitement at Seventh and Penn streets. And the people remained at that point, immovable. Proclamations by the sheriff and earnest appeals by the policemen did not make the slightest impression upon them. The vast multitude were in sympathy with the riotous demonstrations. And so matters remained for nearly two hours, apparently growing worse as the darkness of night fell upon the community. Then, however, a sudden change arose. And what agent was this that could, as it were, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, separate a maddened, threatening crowd, when sober, sensible appeals to citizens who had theretofore been a law-abiding people, were wholly unavailing? It was the bullet. This acted upon them as effectually as the lightning upon restless, thickening clouds in a portentous sky.

About 8 o'clock, seven companies of the 4th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, numbering about two hundred men, under the command of Gen. Franklin Reeder, arrived at the railroad station in the city, viz.:

Company B, Allen Rifles, Allentown; Company D, Allen Continentals, Allentown; Company E, Blue Mountain Legion, Hamburg; Company F, Easton Grays, Easton; Company H, Slatington Rifles, Slatington; Company I, Catasauqua; Company K, Portland, Northampton county.

After some consultation they were marched down the railroad and through the "cut" toward Penn street to liberate the train there. On the way, they were attacked by persons on the elevated pavements who threw stones and bricks upon them. They did not fire in self-defense, but moved on bravely. Nearing Penn street, the situation became so dangerous that some of the men, by some order or mistaken command, shot off their rifles. Bricks and stones were thrown with increased energy, and many shots followed. The crowd immediately scattered, and men were seen bearing away the wounded and killed. With the dispersing crowd, the soldiers also became disordered, and the companies disorganized. Their conduct was disgraceful, and the whole community, and especially the management of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company, lost confidence in them as a means of restoring order or preserving peace. A battery of United States Regular Artillery, equipped as infantry, then came here shortly afterward, under the command of General Hamilton, and remained until peace, order and safety were assured. The fidelity of G. A. Nicolls and George Eltz as officials of the railroad at this point, in the perilous situation of affairs then existing, was highly commendable.

This riot resulted in the killing of ten citizens (Milton Trace, James J. Fisher, Ludwig Hoffman, John H. Weaver, Lewis A. Eisenhower, John A. Cassidy, John A. Wunder, Daniel Nachtrieb, Elias



Shafer and Howard Cramp); and the wounding of twenty-seven persons (including four policemen) and twelve soldiers.

Dr. George S. Goodhart, the coroner of the county, then held an inquest to inquire into the loss of life; and after hearing a number of witnesses reported on Aug. 7, 1877, that the death of the persons named was caused by the military who were here by direction of the State authorities firing upon the rioters, and the terrible tragedy was directly attributed to the lawless assembling of persons at Seventh and Penn streets.

Many men were arrested and indicted for alleged implication in this riot. Two of them pleaded guilty and were sentenced to imprisonment for five years. There was a hotly contested trial of another, from Oct. 2d to the 6th, but he was acquitted. The following week, fourteen were tried and all were acquitted excepting one, who was convicted of inciting to riot; and the third week, forty were called for trial but the prosecution was abandoned. These trials caused great excitement. F. B. Gowen, the president of the P. & R. R. Co., conducted the prosecution of these cases in person.

SEQUI-CENTENNIAL.—The town plan of Reading was laid out by the Penns in 1748, and in one hundred and fifty years the place was developed to great proportions in every department of life. The Board of Trade, appreciating the utility and importance of properly observing the Sesqui-Centennial, took action at an annual meeting on Feb. 18, 1897, and on Sept. 2d following, a joint committee was appointed, comprising a special committee from city councils and the committee on Municipal Affairs of the Board. This General Committee held its first meeting on Sept. 9th, and in several months a program of festivities was adopted and an executive committee appointed which selected thirty-two separate committees to make all the necessary arrangements, and authorized the compiler of this history to publish a concise History of Reading including the proceedings relating to the Sesqui-Centennial. Weekly meetings were held until June 3, 1898, and all the committees co-operated heartily toward making the anniversary a grand success. The official program was arranged to embrace the second week of June, from Sunday the 5th to Saturday the 11th, as follows:

Sunday, June 5th. Opening Day, with church services in the morning, and musical concerts in the afternoon.

Monday, June 6th. Citizens' Day, with public reception in the court-house in the morning, Civic Parade in the afternoon, and electric illuminations and fireworks in the evening.

Tuesday, June 7th. Women's and Children's Day, with public receptions at Academy of Music and court-house in the morning, School Parade in the afternoon, and grand illumination and choral concert in the evening.

Wednesday, June 8th. public reception at the court-house in the morning and Firemen's Parade in the afternoon.

Thursday, June 9th. public reception at the court-house in the morning, and Industrial Parade in the afternoon.

Friday, June 10th. public reception at the court-house in the morning, Cavalcade and Corso and Bicycle Races in

the afternoon, and Bicycle Flambeau Parade in the evening.

Saturday, June 11th. Regatta and Serenata on the Schuylkill river to conclude the festivities.

This program was carried out in an admirable manner. Most of the stores, business places, factories and dwellings in all parts of the city were beautifully decorated with the national flag and with bunting in national colors, and many places displayed also the city colors and city flag which had been adopted by the committee. The electric illumination of Penn street was superb and its unique character contributed a great deal toward the success of the first time in public demonstrations on Penn street the people remained on the sidewalks. The decorations on both sides of Penn street, from Third to Eleventh streets, were particularly attractive. All the receptions, parades, concerts and exhibitions were successful beyond the expectations of everybody, and such orderly and appreciative throngs of people for six successive days on Penn street had never before been witnessed.

A fire on Penn Square during the Firemen's Parade caused extraordinary excitement for several hours. Many thousands of persons were in the midst of admiring the brilliant display about 3 o'clock, but at the first tap of the fire alarm the general feeling of joy and congratulation was instantly turned to surprise and fear, the entire line of procession flew into indescribable disorder, and all the firemen with their apparatus rushed to Penn Square. The dense mass of humanity presented a most impressive sight, but notwithstanding the great congestion and confusion there the Volunteer Fire Department displayed remarkable efficiency in mastering the situation. The fire was at No. 518, where a cheap variety store was carried on, and the smoke and flames from that store-room were working their way rapidly into Kaffer's queens-ware store and Kline, Eppihimer & Co.'s dry-goods store, with indications of a costly conflagration. Fortunately the air was calm and the department got control of the fire by 6 o'clock. The loss was about \$60,000. The end of the long and imposing procession had just reached Penn Square when the alarm sounded, so the multitudes on the sidewalks saw the greater part of it before it was abandoned.

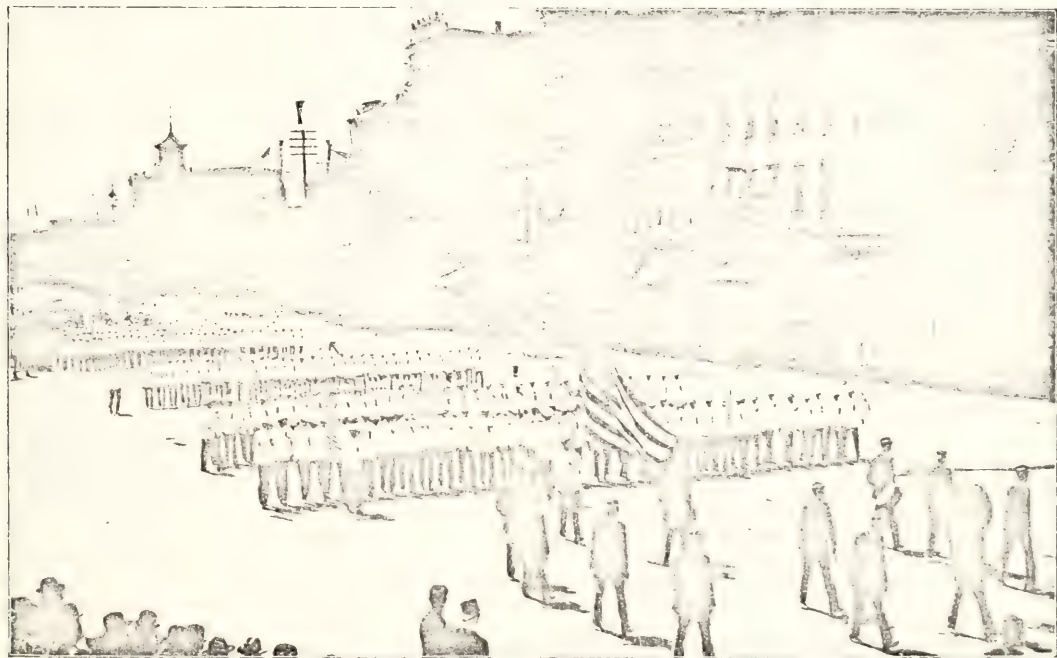
Many visiting friends and strangers were hospitably entertained by numerous families, and by associations of various kinds. Mr. and Mrs. George F. Baer displayed a remarkable spirit of liberality in welcoming and entertaining many distinguished visitors at their superb home "Hawthorne."

The compiler of this history issued a comprehensive volume of 300 pages as a suitable memento of the occasion, embracing a brief history of the city and its numerous industrial establishments, and a concise narrative of the Sesqui-Centennial, which was highly complimented by the executive committee and given a wide circulation.





HEAD OF CIVIC PARADE, SESQUI CENTENNIAL OF READING



DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL PARADE, SESQUI CENTENNIAL OF READING

INDUSTRIES

EARLY EMPLOYMENTS BEFORE 1783.—The artisans of Reading have always been recognized for their skill and industry. When the town lots were first sold, and improved real estate was transferred to succeeding owners for thirty years afterward, the employments of the parties to the deeds were usually added to their names. An examination of the records in the recorder's office reveals this fact. The employments were quite diversified, as the following enumeration indicates: baker, blacksmith, book-binder, brick-maker, brewer, butcher, cabinet-maker, carpenter, clock-maker, cooper, cordwainer, felt-maker, glazier, gunsmith, hatter, joiner, locksmith, nailer, potter, reed-maker, saddler, shoemaker, tanner, tailor, tinner, tobacconist, weaver, and wheelwright.

Many articles have been preserved and transmitted from one generation to the other until now. There are instances where certain articles, such as clocks, furniture, coverlets, silverware, etc., have been handed down for over a hundred years in a direct line. The workmanship is superior, showing thoroughness and experience. These articles were not made for the residents of the town and the surrounding settlements only, but to supply demands from distant places. In this respect, Reading had a wide reputation before 1783.

Hat-making was the most prominent industry then. Statistics previous to 1795 have not been discovered; but a table has been published, showing the production of Pennsylvania then, in which Berks county ranks next to Philadelphia, having had thirty-eight hatters and produced 2,200 fur hats and 54,000 wool hats (the latter one-third of the total production of all the counties). The production of the county was almost wholly from Reading. The shops were small.

INDUSTRIAL CHARACTER.—In looking over the general situation of affairs until 1783, it is apparent that industry was a distinguishing characteristic of the people and that this was the direct cause of their prosperity. The rapid growth of the population shows the importance of the place. Business relations extended to different centers of trade and commerce. Many men were engaged in carrying on general stores. They traded mostly with merchants at Philadelphia. Inn-keepers were prominent men and they took much interest in local government and representative positions.

In 1762 there were thirty-two liquor licenses issued by the Governor, upon recommendation of the justices. This large number of licenses for a town of only twelve hundred inhabitants is a certain indication that many persons from the surrounding townships and distant places visited Reading to transact business. Licenses were, however, issued to store-keepers besides inn-keepers; and farmers mostly purchased their liquors there.

The erection of a borough in 1783 for improved local government makes the developing process of

the community apparent. The industry and enterprise of the people prepared the way for the introduction of stage-coaches, post-office, newspapers, turnpikes, banks, bridges, canals and railroads. These improvements of a public nature indicate a strong co-operative spirit. Manufacturers, merchants and farmers kept themselves busy agitating them, and for their success in overcoming various obstacles, and finally establishing them, they cannot be given too much praise. By comparing their situation with that which we occupy, from sixty to one hundred years after those improvements had been introduced, we must express surprise at their undertakings and accomplishments.

EARLY TRAFFIC.—The following statement shows the extent of traffic at two early periods of Reading. The articles were shipped on flat-bottomed boats to Philadelphia from the store-houses of Garber & Strohecker, situated on both sides of the river, one below and the other above the Levan Ferry (now Lancaster bridge).

In 1795: 18,135 bushels wheat, 2,220 barrels flour, 105 tons straw, 11 tons linseed oil, $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons beeswax, 9 tons butter, 3 tons paper, $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons hams, 23 gallons brandy, 79 dozen hats.

In 1807 (February to June): 31,198 bushels wheat, 4,695 barrels flour, 380 barrels bread, 153 barrels pork, 200 bushels corn, 50 tons iron, 274 casks butter, 1,256 gallons brandy, $2\frac{1}{4}$ tons paper.

There were other store-houses, and shipments were made from them also; but no statistics have been preserved. Numerous teams were constantly going to and fro, delivering various productions and taking away merchandise.

In 1831, for the week ending May 27th, 80 boats loaded with various articles went down the canal from Reading; and in 1835, for the week ending June 14th, 125 boats. Some of them had coal from Schuylkill county.

WAREHOUSE IN 1826.—The Schuylkill canal extended through that section of the town midway between Front and Second streets. A basin was constructed in the quarter block lying between Cherry and Franklin streets, and Second street and the canal, and this occupied a prominent place in the business affairs of Reading from 1826 to 1834. A large warehouse stood along Second street. It was carried on by William P. Orrick. Numerous four-horse and six-horse teams, with large covered wagons, collected along Second, Penn and Franklin streets waiting their turn for merchandise to be taken from the boats in the basin and hauled west, northwest and northeast many miles. They brought mostly grain to Reading for shipment by canal. It was the most prominent business point of the town until the canal was moved west, along the river, in 1834. This store-house was afterward converted into a planing-mill. The basin was also used as a landing place for "Packet Boats."

Many passengers traveled by boat from Philadelphia to Reading, and preferred to do so on account of the quietness and coolness of the ride. The

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trip one way was made in a day, both by boat and by stage, that is, from morning till evening. This was accomplished by changing the teams at fixed stations, from six to eight miles apart.

READING IN 1840.—William Stahle, a store-keeper, published a small book of 68 pages in 1841, relating to the business affairs of Reading as they existed in 1840. More than sixty different employments were carried on at that time, and the manufacturing establishments numbered sixty-four. The enumeration, briefly stated, was as follows:

EMPLOYMENTS

1 Artist	2 Locksmiths
7 Bakers	24 Mantua-makers
6 Barbers	12 Milliners
16 Blacksmiths	1 Millwright
1 Blind-maker	3 Painters (coach)
3 Boat-builders	7 Painters (house)
17 Brick-layers	2 Painters (sign)
14 Butchers	3 Plasterers
8 Cabinet-makers	3 Plumbers
30 Carpenters	1 Pump-maker
4 Cigar-makers	1 Reed-maker
9 Clock-makers	4 Saddlers
6 Coach-makers	1 Scissors Grinder
6 Coach-trimmers	26 Shoemakers
1 Coffee-mill maker	2 Silver-platers
2 Coopers	5 Slop-shops
4 Coppersmiths	5 Stone-cutters
3 Curriers	3 Stone-masons
4 Dentists	34 Tailors
11 Doctors	5 Tallow-chandlers
3 Drovers	32 Tavern-keepers
4 Druggists	7 Tinsmiths
4 Dyers	4 Turners
2 Gunsmiths	13 Weavers
1 Horse Farrier	6 Wheelwrights
3 Jewelers	1 White Sweep
26 Lawyers	

MANUFACTORIES

1 Auger Factory	1 Gun Barrel Factory
1 Blacking Varnish Factory	1 Iron and Nail Works
1 Brass Foundry	1 Iron Foundry
3 Breweries	1 Lime Kiln
9 Brick Kilns	2 Machine Shops
1 Brush Factory	1 Piano Factory
1 Coffee-Mill Factory	1 Rope Factory
1 Comb Factory	1 Saw Mill
1 Distillery	1 Stove Foundry
3 Farming Implement Shops	1 White and Morocco
8 Fur Hat Factories	1 Tannery
2 Glue Factories	5 Windsor Chair Factories
2 Grist-mills	14 Wool Hat Factories

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENTERPRISES

3 Banks	7 Newspapers
2 Bridges	13 Private Schools
2 Canals	13 Public Schools
12 Churches	4 Public Libraries
5 Coal Yards	1 Railroad
6 Fire Companies	4 Store-houses
1 Greenhouse	89 Stores
4 Livery Stables	8 Sunday-schools
3 Lumber Yards	5 Vineyards
2 Market-houses	1 Waterworks
3 Military Companies	4 Wood and Coal Yards

The foregoing list is not complete, for it is known that many men were engaged in other occupations which contributed their share toward the enrichment and development of Reading, such as

wool-hat-makers, boot and shoe makers, molders, machinists, chain-makers, nail-makers, potters, wheelwrights, distillers, brewers, rope-makers, and boat-builders.

DEVELOPMENT OF READING, 1783-1847.—Between 1783 and 1847 the energy of the people was constantly shown in various directions. In the course of local events, it appears prominent in patriotism, in religious zeal, and in business intercourse. The erection of churches by different denominations would seem to have been accomplished mostly by first efforts; but the erection of bridges, turnpikes and canals required much perseverance under adverse circumstances, extending through many years.

The growth of the population of Reading was surprising, especially considering it as an inland borough. The stage-coach and turnpike contributed the greater proportion of this growth until 1825, and the canal and railroad from that time until 1847. Coal became the principal factor in this development after 1825. It was discovered about 1770, but it was not appreciated for heating purposes until after 1810, and for creating steam until after 1825. The first practical use of it in a stove at Reading is said to have been made in the Branch Bank about 1810. When the canal was opened for transportation from the coal regions in 1824, it began to be introduced in large quantities. Then factories were erected and they were operated by steam power. When the railroad was extended to Pottsville in 1842, the influence of coal in accelerating the development of Reading was felt in a marked degree. Iron must also be mentioned in this connection. It was the great constituent in machinery for factories, shops and furnaces, and in a substantial track for the railroad. Coal, steam and iron were each necessary to complete the great combination for power, despatch and economy, and they contributed largely to the rapid development of Reading from 1825 to 1850. This appears from the census enumeration, as follows: from 1820 to 1830, 35 per cent.; from 1830 to 1840, 46.6 per cent., and from 1840 to 1850, 87.2 per cent.

In 1847.—As near as it can be ascertained, Reading in 1847 contained 37 different kinds of industrial establishments; also 130 mercantile houses for which county licenses were issued. The following statement includes the names of the more prominent persons who carried on business here at that time:

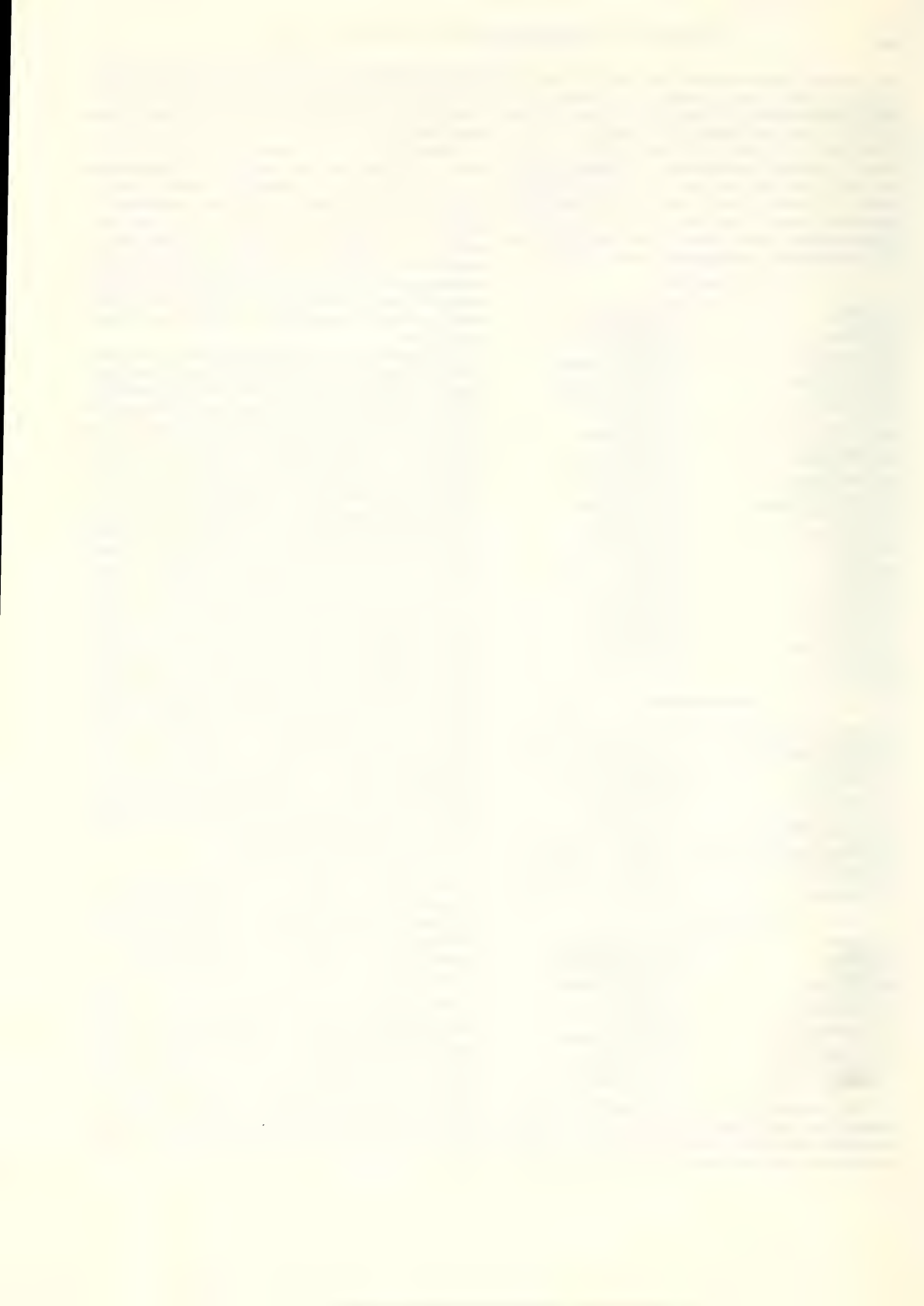
Bakeries: Henry Drum, John G. Eben, David Mitchell, Daniel Moyer.

Blacksmith shops: John Drenkel, Aaron Getz, Peter D. Getz, Jacob Jones, Daniel Miller, Thomas Rambo, William Stoltz.

Boat-yards: William Krick, Samuel & Adam Krauser, William Hiestler, Savage & Call, Corbett & Stratton.

Breweries: Frederick Lauer, Nicholas Felix, John Borrell.

Brick-yards: John Darrah, Adam Diehm, Thomas Diehm, John Hoff, Benjamin Fink, Jacob Geiger, Henry Gaul, George S. Levan, William Yeager, Jacob Young.



Brush Factories: Benjamin Witman, Helms & German, William Sage.
Cabinet Factories: John Bertolet, Henry Haberacker, Josiah Hearing, Henry Rhein, Daniel Spang.
Candy Factories: P. K. & H. L. Miller, G. W. & A. M. Souders, Amos B. Yeager.
Carriage Factories: Ephraim Booth, Samuel Filbert, Jacob Hessler, Godfrey Simon, Isaiah Thomas.
Chain Factory: Nicholas Rapp.
Chair Factories: Owen Bitting, John Brown, Frederick Fox, James M. Lewis, Gustavus Leslie.
Cigar Factories: John Beadencup, Charles Breneiser, J. & E. Eyrich, Franklin Frantz, J. M. & G. W. Hantsch, John Maltzberger.
Clothing Shops: James Jameson, William McFarlan, George Newkirk.
Comb Factory: Viven & Behm.
Cooper Shops: Peter Barbey, Daniel Engel, Morton Righter, William Sands, Henry B. Shearer, Thomas Willson.
Distilleries: Philip Bushong, Riah Gillson.
Farming Implement Works: Adam Waid, Montgomery & Armstrong.
Fire-Brick Works: William Wells.
Glue Factories: Daniel Levan, Samuel Levan.
Greenhouse: Michael Hauser.
Grist-Mills: Frees & Kissinger (steam), George Smith (water).
Hat Factories: Henry Brown, George Drenkel, Levi Hildebrand, Henry Henritze, John Kutz, John Lotz, Isaac W. Levan, Jacob Maurer, Adam Rightmeier, Charles W. Ringgold, Jacob Sauerbier, M. & J. Siegel, John Yerger, William Yerger.
Iron Works: Bertolette's Rolling Mill [Enterprise], Darling, Dotterer & Co.'s Machine Shop, Eckert's Furnace [Henry Clay], Johnston's Foundry [Franklin], Philadelphia & Reading R. R. Co. Shops, Sabbatin's Forge, Seyfert, McManus & Co.'s Rolling Mill.
Locksmith Shops: John Mellert, John Miller, George Heilman.
Marble Works: John F. Moers, John T. Craig, Feruinaud H. Strecker.
Nail-makers: George Heilman, Frederick Heilman.
Organ Factories: Daniel Bohler, John Schoener.
Potteries: Asaph Shenfelder, William Wells.
Rope Walks: Thomas Jackson, Stephen Orth.
Saddleries: George Frees, Jacob H. Hain, Andrew Fichthorn, Henry Hahs, Gideon Weiser.
Sawmills: Boas & Spangler, J. V. Craig, Foos & Bingham.
Shoe Factories: H. F. Felix & Co., Henry Fry, Jacob Goodhart, O'Brien & Foster.
Silversmith Shops: Frederick Grotevent, Charles L. Heizmann, George Heller, Levan Mannerback, Otto Ralle.
Soap and Candle Factories: John R. Klein, Albert Fischer.
Tanneries: Henry Connard, Andrew, Charles & William Fichthorn, Abraham Kerper, George Winters.
Tin- and Copper-smith Shops: F. & W. Bright, Jacob Long, Morris Pauli, Charles K. Snell, Daniel Smith.
Turner Shops: Joseph Bitting, Charles Young.
Wheelwright Shops: Jacob Goodman, Henry Goodman, Reuben Goodman.
Weaving Shops: George Goodman, George Price, Philip Rush.

The following must also be mentioned, because they contributed a great deal toward the prosperity of Reading:

Banks: Farmers' Bank; Branch Bank of Pennsylvania.
Builders: William Call, N. M. Eisenhower, George Foos, Benjamin Fink, John Fink, Jacob Fritz, William and Joseph Henry, William B. Hertz, John and Frederick Printz, Solomon Spohn.
Hotels: Herman Beard, Wm. Behm, John W. Burkhardt, John Darrah, Andrew Davis, Wm. L. deBourbon,

Isaac Enis, Jacob Frill, George Gernant, Samuel Graul, Daniel Herr, John Mellon, John Messersmith, John Moyer, Michael Nunnemacher, Philip Orth, Peter Philippi, Wm. Rapp, Solomon Spohn, Harry Weldy.

Merchants: Philip Albright, John Allgaier, Marks John Biddle, Boas, Lott & Co., D. R. Clymer, William and Peter Coleman, Lewis Briner, Baum & Sands, Samuel Ermentrout, Wm. Ermentrout, Fasig & Henry, Wm. S. Fisher, Fricker & Stout, John Green, Hoff & Bro., George Feather, Hart & Mayer, Johnson & Templin, Keely & Kerper, Wm. & John Keim, Michael Keffer, Frank Miller, J. & C. M. Pearson, Alexander Peacock, Wm. Rhoads & Son, Francis Roland, Stichter & McKnight, John Ritter & Co., Seyfert & Miner, Frank B. Shalters, David R. Schultz, E. D. Smith, Weitzel & Bro., Philip Zieber.

The following women were in business then, all conducting millinery establishments, and several including trimmings and notions: Mrs. Catharine Andrews, (Barbara) Babb & (Catharine) Wanner, Mrs. Rachel Boyer, Helen Dwight, Mrs. Amanda Heller, Mrs. Mary Marsh, Mrs. Hannah Philippi, Catharine Price, Deborah Potts, Mrs. Elizabeth Reamer (Norton), Ellen Richards, Mrs. Red, Mrs. Runyon, (Mrs. Susan) Rapp & (Mrs. Catharine) Harvey, Mrs. Harriet Smith (Kutz).

DEVELOPMENT SINCE 1847.—By the foregoing details it is apparent that the community then possessed a remarkable spirit of enterprise, and that this spirit caused the development of Reading in its industrial, financial and social affairs. The establishments were mostly small, and employed only several mechanics. The iron works, however, were large and afforded employment to a considerable number of hands, especially the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company shops, and the Seyfert, McManus & Company rolling-mill. The major part of their production was shipped away by railroad, canal, stage and private conveyances, more particularly cigars, iron articles and wool hats.

It would be very interesting to describe in detail the development of the industrial life at Reading in its various channels until the present time, but the subject cannot be exhaustively treated here. The status at the beginning of 1909, sixty years after the incorporation of the city, is far beyond that of 1847. This will be made apparent by comparing the foregoing statement with the following. The improvement is truly wonderful, and the people of Reading can show a pardonable pride in its manufacturing concerns, to which it is chiefly indebted for the great increase of its wealth and population.

It must be stated in this connection that a similar improvement was made in the dry-goods establishments. Some of them have grown into large department stores, notably Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, C. K. Whitner & Co., Kline, Epiphimer & Co., J. Mould & Co., and Lord & Gage. The stores at Reading from 1760 to 1847 were practically what the department stores are today, the difference being in the amount of stock carried. Then the value was from \$5,000 to \$50,000; now it is from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000. After 1847, as population increased, many of them began to carry distinct lines of goods, and this has been continued until now. The department stores began here in 1876.



STATEMENT OF INDUSTRIES

The following concise description of the numerous industrial enterprises at Reading, showing name and nature of business, date of founding, etc., will give the reader an idea of the great variety of articles manufactured. The compiler had hoped to supply particulars showing the extent of the business, persons employed, investments, etc., of the various establishments in existence at this time, whether large or small, but he found that the information could not be made complete, or reliable, and that changes in the firms and the business were constantly going on; therefore he confined his efforts to the preparation of a simple statement. The list indicates truly that Reading has been and is a great industrial center. Its trading relations extend to all parts of the world. Many of the important facts will be found in the sketches of the manufacturers which are included in the biographical part of this publication. The iron industries have been described in a class by themselves, at the end of the alphabetical list.

ABATTOIRS:

Reading Abattoir Company, 1898, 60 to 75 men.
Simon & Sherman, 1906, 3 to 4 men.

BADGES:

Reading Ribbon Badge Company, 1896; 20 to 30 hands.

Keystone Ribbon Badge Company, 1893; 8 to 10 hands.

BAKERIES, BREAD, PIES, etc. (the more important, which employ several or more teams for delivering their products).

Joel A. Arnold
 William H. Behrle
 Alfred E. Brossman
 Mrs. Minnie Brusch
 Mrs. Lena C. Dallwig
 Charles H. DeHart
 Charles G. Fender
 Daniel H. Folmer
 Conrad Gantert
 Samuel A. J. Green
 A. J. Howard & Andrew Christian
 Frederick K. Humrichouse
 Robert W. Kinginger
 Frank C. Kelb
 John P. Luft
 Gottlieb Mayer

Jacob B. Mertz
 William Moyer
 Andrew J. Muntz
 Harry Pappa
 John W. Pfautz
 John F. Rauch
 Conrad Schamburg
 Henry Schofer's Sons
 James A. Schofer
 Samuel Spadofora
 Daniel B. Spatz
 Edwin C. Stahl
 John S. Stegmann
 Edward F. Stoerber
 Mrs. Kate R. Warfel
 Michael Wolicki

BAKERIES, BRETZELS:

Pennsylvania Bretzel Company, 1900 (succeeded Lichtenhaeler Bretzel Company, which was started in 1860).

J. T. Adams & Co., 1907 (succeeded Hendricks & Adams, which was started in 1893).

Francis J. Bachman, 1884.

Addison Geyer, 1885.

Frank P. Nistle, 1903.

American Pretzel Company (William L. Schuler), 1906.

BAKERIES, CRACKERS:

A. Mitchell Est. (succeeded David Mitchell, who started in 1853).

Reading Biscuit Company, 1903.

BASKETS:

George S. Cook, 1905 (having succeeded his father, John Cook, 1852-1905).

William L. Wunder, 1883.

BENDING WORKS:

Anchor Bending Works, J. Harry and Charles E. Leippe, 1889 (succeeded father, 1880-89).

BOATS:

John A. Hiester, since 1878.

Previously, Samuel Krauser, David Ely, William Hiester (father of John), Peter Krick, Adam Waid, William Call, and Jerome Ringler, covering a period of fifty years.

BOOKBINDING:

Edward Taenzer, 1889 (formerly Taenzer Brothers, and Engel Brothers, 1869-85).

Heller Bindery, 1908 (succeeding Charles F. Heller, 1883-1904, and H. C. Wonnberger, 1894-1907).

Arnold's Commercial Book Shop (Augustus W. Arnold), 1907 (succeeding F. P. Heller, 1902-07).

Previous binders, Isaac W. Harper (1835-74); George Kesslering (1858-86).

National Text Book Company, at Reading, Pa., was organized in 1909 for the purpose of binding books, manufacturing text-books and tablets of all kinds, and publishing magazines, and, when fully established, to include a printing department. In this behalf the company purchased the Connard Brass Foundry at Sixth and Chestnut streets and secured possession on June 1, 1909. The building was equipped with the latest machinery and operations were started July 1st. Its trade will be extended throughout the United States. The officers of the company are: President, Hon. L. S. Walter, Mt. Carmel, Pa., vice-president, J. B. Steiner, Reading, Pa.; secretary, W. W. Ridge, Centralia, Pa.; treasurer, Paul K. Leinbach, Reading, Pa. The directors are: Hon. Thomas P. Merritt, James H. Renninger, F. B. Musser, G. L. Kleinigina, Reading, Pa.; Hon. E. M. Herbst, Oley, Pa.; Hon. Leopold Fuerth, Honesdale, Pa.; J. V. Leshner, Esq., Sunbury, Pa.; E. J. Flynn, Esq., Centralia, Pa.; James F. Carline, Mt. Carmel, Pa.; Harry W. Davis, Esq., Wilmington, Delaware.

BOTTLING WORKS:

J. Fett & Sons, 1887 (succeeding John Fehr, 1850-55, Herman Floto, 1855-64, Schick & Fett, 1864-87).

Empire Bottling Works, 1898 (Herman J. Croessant, succeeding Fries & Croessant, 1882-98).

Excelsior Bottling Company, 1894 (Thomas J. Fessler, succeeding Fessler & Dunkelberger).

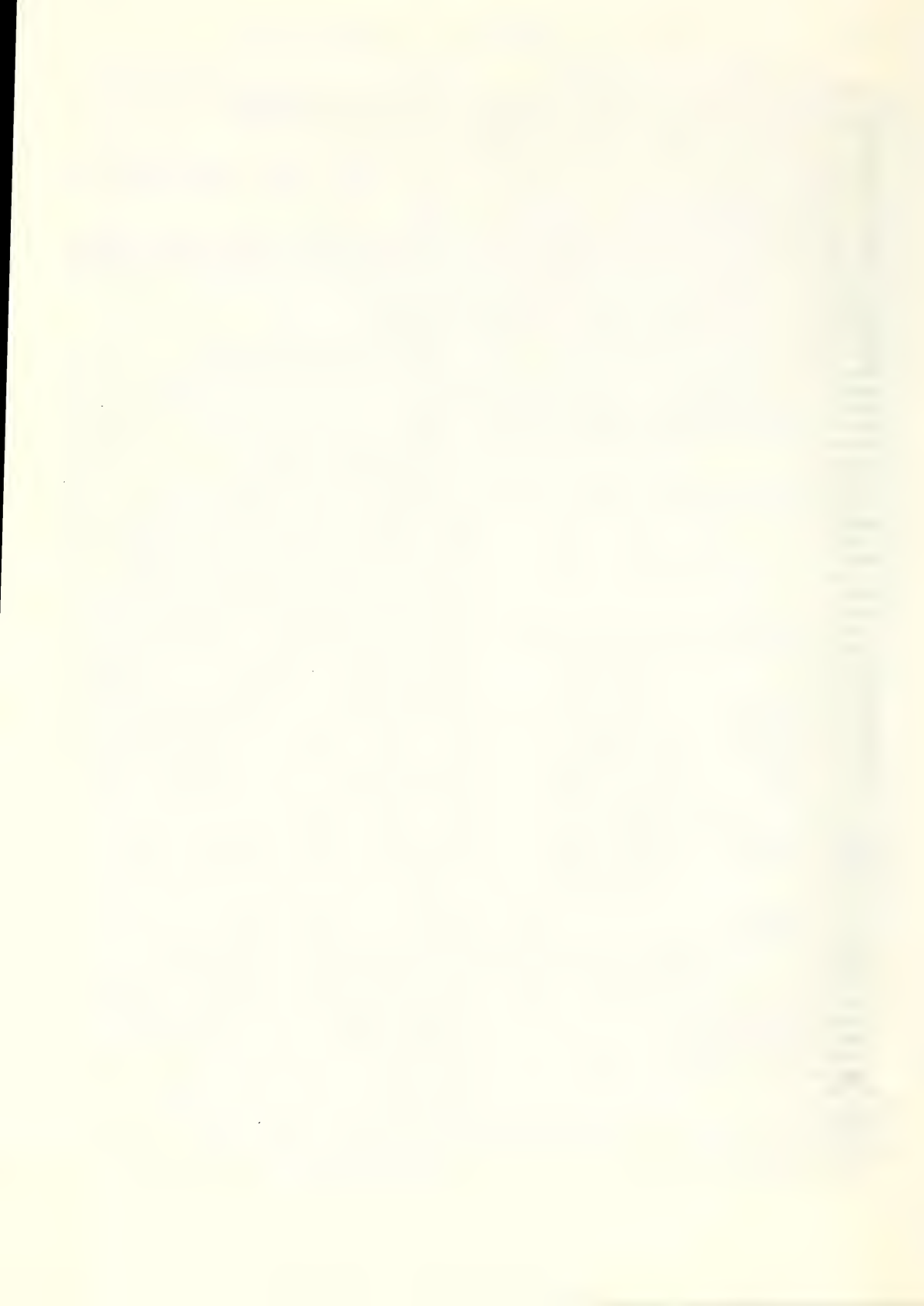
Reading Bottling Works, 1906 (Reading Brewing Company).

Irvin Hassler, 1908 (succeeding A. W. Fisher, 1887-1908).

Union Bottling Works, 1902 (Walton A. Griesemer).

Mountain Spring Water Company, 1892 (John Lawrence, and his sons Edward and Richard).

Mt. Laurel Spring Water Company, 1908.



BOXES, CIGAR:

A. Thalheimer Manufacturing Company, 1903 (succeeding John Kaul, 1865-66, Frederick Brecht, 1866-68, Albert Thalheimer, 1868-95, A. Thalheimer & Son, 1895-1903).

E. R. Fichthorn Est., 1907 (succeeding E. R. Fichthorn, 1878-1907).

Lyman P. Kline, 1905 (succeeding Boyer & Heilig, 1866-1905).

Old Honesty Cigar Box Company, 1907 (J. N. & C. W. Bucks) (succeeding Bellman Brothers, 1905-07).

BOXES, PAPER:

Reading Ribbon Badge Company, 1896 (succeeding Julius Webber, who manufactured ribbon badges etc. from 1853 to 1896).

Standard Paper Box Company, 1894 (succeeding Albert Trate, 1875-94).

William H. Engel, 1886.

Reading Paper Box Company, 1892.

Mt. Penn Paper Box Company, 1894 (Ephraim G. Wanner & Sons, since 1907).

Excelsior Paper Box Company, 1908 (Charles C. Miller & Harry I. Steiger).

BOXES, PACKING CASES:

Abner S. Deysher, 1894 (succeeding Jacob H. Deysher, 1860-88, and his widow, 1888-94).

Leinbach Box Company, 1902.

J. F. Kachline, 1904.

BRASS WORKS:

Henry Connard Est., 1907-May, 1909 (succeeding Douglas & Connard, 1851-96, and Henry Connard, 1896-1907).

Dick Brothers, 1901 (succeeding Miller & Buckwalter, 1897-1901).

Excelsior Brass Works, 1903 (succeeding Charles Dick & George A. Wicklein, who started in 1897).

Kline & Co., 1897 (J. W. Kline).

Crescent Brass Manufacturing Company, 1904.

Brass Foundries also carried on by P. & R. R. Company, Reading Hardware Company and Penn Hardware Company.

BREWERIES:

Lauer Brewing Company, 1883 (Frank P. Lauer) (succeeding George Lauer, 1826-35, and Frederick Lauer, 1835-83).

Deppen Brewing Company, 1901 (succeeding N. A. Felix, 1847-79, and William P. Deppen, 1879-1901).

P. Barbey & Son, 1880 (John Barbey) (succeeding Peter Barbey, 1861-97).

Reading Brewing Company, 1886.

Schneider Brewing Works, 1907 (August Schneider) (succeeding Stocker & Roehrich, 1891-1907).

BRICK, FIRE:

Reading Fire Brick Works, 1889 (succeeding William A. Wells & Isaac Bertolette, 1845-57, and McHose & Thompson, 1857-89); plant, Fifth and Canal streets.

George J. Eckert manufactured fire-brick for many years on Canal street, near Bingaman.

BRICK, BUILDING:

The manufacture of building and paving brick was a prominent industry at Reading from the beginning of Reading until 1907, when the last brick kiln was abandoned. The manufacture is carried on prominently by parties residing in Reading, but the plants are situated in West Reading and adjoining Wyomissing.

BROOMS:

Shanaman Brothers, 1873 (Jacob, William F. and Walter Shanaman, the last having retired from firm in 1896).

S. E. Nies & Co., 1899 (Samuel E. Nies and David T. Schmehl).

Henry H. Krouse manufactured brooms for many years, having started in 1840.

BRUSHES:

George Regenfusc, 1852.

J. O. Flatt & Co., 1895 (Joseph and George) (succeeding their father, Joseph O. Flatt, 1872-95).

Previous brush-makers were Benjamin Witman, Morris Helms, Peter Steinel, 1847-70, John E. Steinel, 1870-1905.

BUGGYAUTS:

In 1906 Charles E. Duryea became interested in the development of a horseless conveyance which he named the "Buggyaut," a carriage propelled by gasoline. He established a place in 1908 on Cherry street, above Third, for assembling the several parts, which are made by different parties here and elsewhere, and then started filling orders. He employs 4 hands.

CABINET WORKS:

In 1907 John Herb and Daniel Rhoads associated together as the *Reading Cabinet Works* for the purpose of manufacturing cabinets, show-cases, etc., having succeeded J. Howard Cutler, who had carried on the business for a number of years at No. 834 Court street. They employ 5 hands.

The Neversink Planing Mill makes a specialty of supplying cabinets.

CANDY:

J. O. Koller, 1880; transferred to son May, 1909.

Luden Candy Factory—In 1882, William H. Luden began modestly making candy for Christmas, with thirty pounds of sugar, at No. 37 North Fifth street, and he disposed of the result of his first efforts in his store. He continued there for ten years, gradually increasing his production, and then he was obliged to move into larger quarters, which he established in a four-story building on the northeast corner of Sixth and Washington streets. He employed then 140 persons and worked up a carload of sugar weekly, and his trade came to extend through the Eastern, Middle and Southern States. By the year 1900 his trade had been developed to such proportions that he was obliged to secure still larger quarters, and he accordingly located his plant on Eighth street beyond Walnut, where he erected a four-story brick structure, 165 feet front by



110 feet deep, dedicating the building in June, 1900, and taking possession shortly afterward. And there, too, his business has been increasing from year to year until he has come to employ from 400 to 500 hands. During the summer of 1909 he erected a four-story brick addition to the south end, 60 by 110 feet, making the plant altogether 225 feet front by 110 feet deep. He manufactures all kinds of candies in very large quantities, which are shipped throughout the United States. For several years he has made a specialty of "Luden's Menthol Cough Drops," which have become very popular, the annual sales amounting to 5,000,000 5-cent packages.

Mr. Luden has endeared himself very much to all his employes by his kindness and generosity. Annually he provides an outing for them at his own expense, which is highly appreciated.

John M. Fries, 1888.

Reading Confectionery Company, 1892.

W. G. Hollis, 1893-1905, and since by estate.
tate.

Numerous other parties manufacture candy, but in a limited way.

CARPETS:

Charles Pflugfelder, 1882 (succeeding his father, John Pflugfelder, 1855-97).

Joseph A. Boyer, 1883.

Charles J. Smith, 1887.

Carpets made are entirely of rags. Ingrain carpets were also made for some time but discontinued.

CARRIAGES AND WAGONS:

Wetherhold Brothers, 1891 (William and George) (succeeding father, William H. Wetherhold, 1862-91).

Biehl Carriage and Wagon Works, 1903 (succeeding George W. Biehl, 1877-1903).

G. H. Smith & Son, 1902.

Keystone Vehicle Company.—The Keystone Vehicle Company was incorporated May 4, 1909, with a capital of \$75,000, for the manufacture of wagons and automobile bodies, as successor of the Keystone Wagon Works, which had carried on a large business at Reading since 1890, extending to all parts of the United States. It secured the established plant along the Lebanon Valley railroad at Third street, consisting of a four-story brick structure, 200 by 225 feet, equipped with first-class modern machinery. Operations were started immediately and employment was given to 100 hands. The annual wages will amount to \$50,000, and the product to \$300,000. The officers of the company are: Edward C. Nolan, president; G. Stanley Hendel, secretary; John L. Cox, treasurer and manager.

Tobias K. Shenk followed general contracting at Reading for eight years, and in 1903 embarked in the business of manufacturing heavy and light wagons and carriages, including rubber tires, at No. 1139 Moss street, and has continued until the present time, employing from 6 to 16 hands.

David L. Reber (engaged in local express and storage) started in this business at Buttonwood and Cedar streets in 1905 and has since carried it

on successfully with 7 to 10 hands, according to the demands of his trade.

CELLULOID SIGNS:

The General Advertising Company was incorporated in the year 1900, with a capital of \$15,000, by a number of Reading capitalists, for the purpose of establishing a plant at Reading for the manufacture of steel enameloid signs of a general description. The company carried on business successfully at several places in the city, and in October, 1907, erected a superior four-story brick structure, 30 by 100 feet, at Fourth and Franklin streets, where they have developed a very large trade, almost wholly engaged in manufacturing steel celluloid signs for paint manufacturers, and for railroads, which are sold throughout the United States. The plant employs 25 hands. It is the only one of the kind at Reading. The officers of the company are: Walter S. Hamaker, president; Howard J. Potts, secretary-treasurer.

CEMENT PAVING:

R. L. Wilson & Co.

Dominic Maurer (succeeding Engelbert & Wagonblast).

Franklin Walters.

Reading Cement & Paving Company (Hoverter & Hartman).

Weller Brothers (Frederick W. and Ephraim).

Cement paving began at Reading about 1876. The first large pavements were put down at the Boys' High School in 1883, and the Post-Office building in 1887. Cement blocks began to be made at Reading in 1904 by Weller Brothers.

CHEWING GUM:

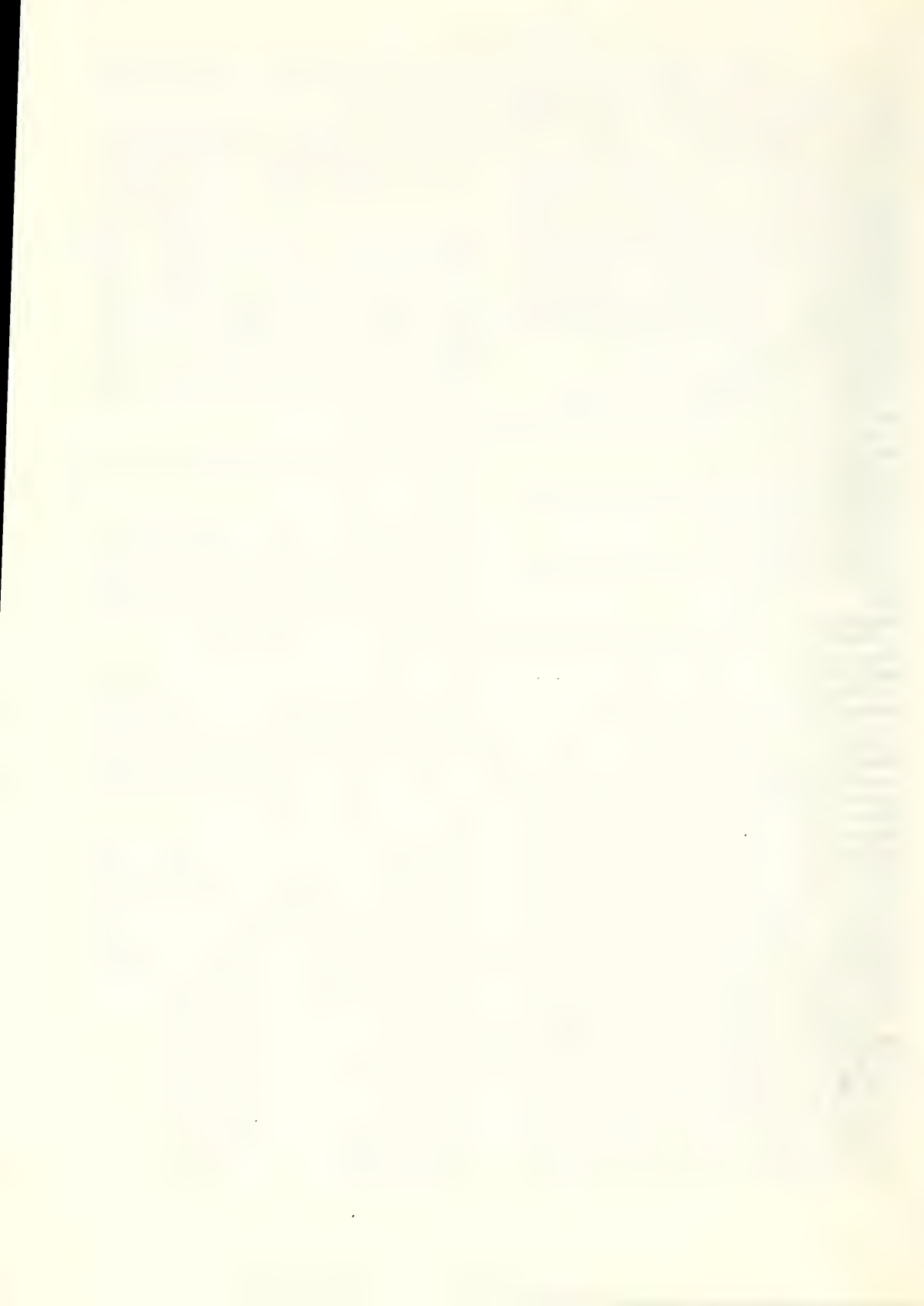
The Kola-Chemical Company was incorporated in the year 1903 with a capital of \$20,000, for the manufacture of chewing gum at Reading, and since then has manufactured "Richardson's Kola Chewing Gum" in large quantities, employing 25 hands. Its quarters are located in the Luden Candy Factory. The officers of the company are: William H. Luden, president; Miss M. M. Boas, treasurer; and A. N. Bodey, secretary.

CIGARS:

The manufacture of cigars at Reading began about 1800, and the prominent manufacturers until the Civil war were James Morris, John Eyrich, Samuel Eyrich, Isaac James, J. & E. Eyrich, Philip Albright, John Maltzberger, J. & G. W. Hantsch, Charles Breneiser and William Hartman. In 1908 there were over one hundred factories at Reading and each of the following parties made annually upward of five hundred thousand:

H. G. Burky
Dibert Bros. (Samuel D.)
Otto Eisenlohr & Bro.
Fleck Cigar Company
F. Ganter
Julius G. Hansen
P. Hillerbrand
Heymann Sons
Haller & Whittcraft
Industrial Cigar Mfg. Co.
E. E. Kahler Cigar Co.

George W. Lehr
N. & N. Cigar Co.
A. R. Orth
Penn Cigar Co.
H. H. Roland
John H. Riegel
Charles Ream
Rush Mfg. Co.
M. Steppacher
J. G. Spatz & Co.
J. W. Sheridan & Co.



W. W. Stewart & Son
Valentine Wilk

Yocum Bros.

During 1908 the number of cigars manufactured in the Reading district exceeded 120,000,000; and the revenue paid was \$361,873; and the revenue paid on manufactured tobacco was \$14,782.

CLOTHING:

J. P. Sellers & Co., successors of James Jameson, 1844.

Leinbach & Bro., 1865 (Joseph and George), who were succeeded by Joseph and Charles H. Leinbach.

Reading Pants Manufacturing Company (Solomon Hirschland), 1895.

Albert J. Brumbach, 1895.

There are numerous custom tailors who make suits to order; also upward of two hundred dress-makers who are constantly engaged in making women's and girls' dresses, employing from several hands to ten and even twenty. Large dress-making departments are carried on successfully by C. K. Whitner & Co., Kline, Eppihimer & Co., and Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, in connection with their stores.

COTTON FACTORY:

In the year 1849, certain capitalists at Reading organized a company for the manufacture of muslin and in 1851 erected a large plant 68 by 274 feet on a block of ground, at Ninth and Cotton streets, which has continued in operation almost constantly until the present time. In 1886 it was enlarged to 360 feet. Garner & Co., of New York, have operated it since 1860 in a very successful manner, in connection with other plants. They have employed nearly 300 persons, and paid out annually in wages upward of \$75,000, evidencing the important character of this enterprise to Reading. Ellis L. Castor has been the manager of this large plant since 1900. His predecessor from 1884 to 1900 was Jonathan Smith; and from 1857 to 1884 the manager was John Gragg. From 1872 to 1900, Mr. Castor served as clerk under the managers named.

COTTON GOODS, HOSIERY:

The following list embraces the active manufacturers of hosiery at Reading:

Reading Knitting Mills, 1883.

Nolde & Horst Company, 1888, very large.

William J. Bobst, 1891.

George W. Hawek & Co., 1896.

Harry Hahn, 1896.

Penn Knitting Mills, 1896.

Kuersten & Rick, 1896.

S. S. Miller, 1898.

J. H. Loose, 1898.

W. H. Lando, 1898.

Hampden Knitting Mills Company, 1899.

East Penn Hosiery Company, 1899.

George Guenther, 1900.

H. R. Epler & Son, 1901.

Hawek Knitting Company, 1901.

Consolidated Knitting & Spinning Mills, 1901.

Albert Weber, 1901, formerly of L. Weber & Co., and Weber & Hahn.

Charles L. Oaks, 1904.

Metropolitan Knitting Mills, 1904.

Rick Hosiery Company, 1905.

A. W. Wolfinger Company, 1905.

Colonial Hosiery Mills, 1906.

Central Knitting Mills Company, 1907.

Reading Knitting Mill.—Hosiery, both cotton and woolen, was commonly made by hand by many females at Reading, and sold to the stores. Great quantities were made elsewhere, brought here and sold at retail in the stores. By the year 1876, the custom of wearing home-made stockings was almost entirely abandoned.

In 1883, the first factory was established at Reading for the manufacture of hosiery by machinery, and after passing through several hands, the plant in 1885 became the property of I. C. Hunsicker & Co., who traded as the Reading Knitting Mills, and were the first firm to employ upward of a hundred hands and produce daily about 500 dozen. In 1891 they erected a fine large plant, increased their hands to 250 and their daily product to 800 dozen daily; which evidences the growth of this new enterprise at Reading. In 1896, J. Gaenzle & Co. became the successors, and in 1898 Charles E. Leippe secured an interest in the business, when the name was changed to Gaenzle & Leippe. In 1905 Charles T. Davies succeeded Gaenzle and the firm became Leippe & Davies, but trading under the same name. In December, 1907, Mr. Leippe became the sole owner, and he has since operated the plant very successfully, employing 150 hands.

Nolde-Horst Hosiery Mill.—Jacob Nolde and George D. Horst began to manufacture hosiery on the third floor of the Thalheimer Power building on Cedar street, south of Walnut, in 1888, with 25 hands. Their annual product amounted to \$20,000. In 1890, they built a brick factory on Cedar street beyond Walnut, and there continued the business, in connection with a plant which they carried on at Eighth and Spring streets, until 1892, when they took possession of a four-story brick building on Moss beyond Douglass, which they erected. In 1896 they enlarged the building by adding two wings; and in 1897 they became incorporated as The Nolde & Horst Company, with a capital of \$250,000.

In December, 1899, the entire plant was destroyed by fire, but it was rebuilt immediately on the same site, much improved, with slow-burning construction, fire walls, sprinkler equipment, stair-towers, etc. These stair-towers at the north and south end of the large structure are the first of the kind introduced at Reading and they afford absolutely safe exits in case of fire.

In 1906 they added the Ninth Street Mill, which practically doubled their plant. They are now the largest hosiery manufacturers in the eastern section of the country, if not in the entire country. They produce annually 1,000,000 dozen pairs of hose and half-hose, worth \$2,000,000, and employ 1,500 people. Their annual pay-roll is \$600,000. Their pro-



duct is sold in all parts of the United States, but none of it is exported. The officers are: Jacob Nolde, president; George D. Horst, secretary-treasurer; John D. Horst, superintendent.

COTTON GOODS, UNDERWEAR:

Elijah S. Ammon, 1893.

Lewis Rothermel, 1898.

Lewis & Schultz Manufacturing Company, 1907; running another factory at Tremont.

Reading Underwear Company, 1906 (succeeding C. E. Smith, W. W. Moyer and R. T. Brown, who started in 1902); have another factory at Ephrata.

Mt. Penn Underwear Company, 1905 (Levi M. Miller & James M. Stoudt).

Eclipse Knitting Company, 1906.

Dreisel & Ripka, 1907.

CREAMERIES:

Peter Zacharias, 1905 (succeeding Spang & Zacharias, 1893-1905).

Keystone Creamery, 1902 (William M. and Charles D. Toole) (succeeding Joseph Stauffer, 1893-97, and A. S. Clouser, 1897-1902).

DYE WORKS:

Neversink Dyeing Company, 1906 (succeeding Nathan S. Althouse and James H. Knoll, 1894-1906).

Liberty Dye Works, 1898 (Elias Schulz and son Edward).

Reading Dyeing Company, 1907.

There was a prominent dyer at Reading for a number of years before and after the Civil war, named Sebastian Boehlein.

ELECTRO-PLATING:

Franklin Specialty Company carried on electroplating, nickel-plating and the manufacture of specialties from 1901 to 1909, when Charles Engelmeier became the proprietor of the plant. He employs from 10 to 15 hands.

EXPRESS AND TRANSFER COMPANIES:

Albright Express.—Soon after the opening of the Philadelphia & Reading railroad, Philip Albright established an express line for the delivery of goods and merchandise, and he continued in the business until 1872. For a long time he had an express car attached to the passenger trains, which enabled him to despatch shipments to Philadelphia and delivery at Reading.

Express Companies.—The Howard Express was the first company to locate at Reading, having established an office here in 1849 and continued until 1870; the Central conducted an office here from 1870 to 1880; and the Adams from 1880 to the present time. The P. & R. R. Co. started in 1872 and continued until 1889, when the business was transferred to the United States Express Company.

Local Express.—Edwin C. Hiester embarked in the local express business at Reading in 1861 for delivering baggage and freight and for transferring passengers. The latter was discontinued in 1888, when the Union Transfer Company was started expressly for this branch of the business. The

former was continued until 1900, when Maurice E. Roeder became the successor, and Mr. Roeder has carried on the business until the present time, employing 11 teams.

A number of other persons engaged in this business, the important lines being:

H. A. Brown, 1873, with 12 teams.

O. B. Collier, 1873, with 8 teams.

C. W. Haas, 1885, with 6 teams.

John Greth, 1892, with 3 teams.

D. L. Reber, 1895, with 12 teams.

Leibelsperger & Walborn, 1904, with 4 teams.

Ambrose Dougherty, 1907, with 3 teams.

Union Transfer Company.—In 1888, the P. & R. R. Co. began the business of transferring baggage and travelers at Reading with C. A. Dougherty as manager, and in 1889 cabs were added to the system. In 1893 the business was sold to the Union Transfer Company, which was conducting similar systems at Philadelphia, Pottsville, Atlantic City, and other places. In 1896, this company erected a large stable at Court and Cedar streets, costing \$25,000. The company employs 20 men, 25 horses, 4 cabs, 2 coaches and 2 baggage wagons. Mr. Dougherty died in 1902 and his son acted as manager until 1907, when Michael C. Quinn became his successor.

Reading Taxicab Co.—The automobile having demonstrated its great utility in the matter of locomotion with increasing success at Reading since its introduction in 1891, and a car called the "taxicab" having come to be made since then to answer the purposes of cab service in and about Reading, Harry O. Koller organized the Reading Taxicab Company with a capital of \$20,000 on Dec. 17, 1908, which introduced six fine taxicabs, and these immediately came into general demand on account of their quick, neat and satisfactory service.

FIRE APPARATUS:

William A. Wunder, 1883 (succeeding Spang & Dennison, 1880-83).

FIXTURES, BAR, BANK, STORE AND OFFICE:

Loper Brothers (Joseph and Franklin), 1901.

Schrader & Kline also provide all kinds on orders.

FIXTURES, GAS AND ELECTRIC:

Embree & Goodman, 1906 (succeeding Egid Thoma).

FLOUR-MILLS:

Aaron Yocum Sons & Co., successors of Aaron Yocum, established 1870.

Wertz Milling Company (Edward S. Wertz), 1898.

Three prominent mills were operated along the canal for many years after it was opened for traffic: Krick's (on North River street), Benson's (at foot of Penn street) and Packer's (at foot of Bingham street); and there were two old mills opposite Reading at the mouth of Wyomissing creek, and one at the mouth of the Tulpehocken creek (converted into a paper-mill).

GALVANIZING:

A. Lincoln Frame, who started in the foundry business in 1903, trading under the name of the Gray Iron Foundry Company, added a galvanizing department to his works in 1907, and has since employed 12 men in this branch of work. It is the only individual enterprise of this kind at Reading (galvanizing by the Reading Hardware Works, the Penn Hardware Works and the P. & R. R. Works being done for their own specialties).

GLOVES:

The Reading Glove and Mitten Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1899 for the manufacture of silk gloves, and its large plant has been carried on successfully at Tenth and Spruce streets until the present time, employing 60 to 100 hands.

E. Richard Meinig & Co. was organized in 1905 for the manufacture of silk gloves, became incorporated in 1907 and employs from 500 to 700 hands. Its large plant is located on North Front street, beyond the Lebanon Valley railroad.

GREENHOUSES:

Steckler Brothers (B. Franklin and Leo), 1907 (succeeding their grandfather, Michael Hauser, who started in 1840 and continued until 1873, when he was followed by his son Francis and his son-in-law D. H. Steckler).

H. J. Huessman, 1901 (succeeding John C. Hepler, 1875-1901).

G. H. Hoskin Company, 1905 (succeeding Hoskin & Giles, 1875-1905).

John H. Giles, 1905 (having been associated with G. H. Hoskin from 1875 to 1905).

G. W. Bccars, 1890.

J. C. Bauder, 1903.

Alexander Burnett was prominently engaged in the business at Reading from 1850 to 1880.

GROCERS' BAGS:

The Hercules Paper Bag Company was organized in 1891 and incorporated in 1906, for the manufacture of grocers' bags, which are produced in great quantities and shipped to all parts of the country.

HARNESS:

The manufacture of harness has always been connected with the saddlery shops of Reading. In 1909, there were 5 shops carried on actively: *H. Luther Frees*, with 6 hands (succeeding his father and they together carried on the place for upward of sixty years); *Samuel Hartman*, with 2 hands; *Reading Harness Company*, with 4 hands; *Joseph H. Lutz*, and *J. A. Ticc*.

HORSE-COLLARS:

Horse-collars were made in connection with saddlery at Reading from the beginning. *Gideon Weiser* was engaged at it before the city was established in 1847 and he was succeeded by an em-

ployee, Samuel Donahower, who carried on the business for many years. Upon his decease, his widow continued the business with an employee, L. Kantner, trading as Donahower & Co., and they traded until her death, in 1905. *Kantner* then purchased the business and he has carried it on since with a saddlery.

George Frees carried on the business from 1848 for upward of twenty years, when he was succeeded by his son Luther, who has since continued at it.

Nathaniel Gery was engaged at it for many years until 1870. He was succeeded by Christian Grunder, and Grunder by John M. Kantner. *Samuel Hartman*, *Joseph Lutz* and *Adam Oese* have also followed it for thirty years.

HATS AND CAPS:

The manufacture of wool and fur hats at Reading is the oldest prominent local industry, starting with the beginning of the town. They were handmade until 1852, when machinery was introduced.

Fur Hats.—In 1860 John Hendel and brother George engaged in the manufacture of wool hats at Adamstown, and continued there until 1864, when they located in Exeter township, near Black Bear. They carried on the business there four years, when they located at Reading. In 1871 they purchased the Wyomissing woolen-mill at Fifth and Willow streets and operated a large and improved plant until 1895, when they were succeeded by *John Hendel's Sons* (Daniel, Edwin and Harrison). In 1897 they started making fur hats.

They carried on the business in a very successful manner as John Hendel's Sons until 1907, when Harrison was killed in the Honda wreck in California, and his interest was purchased by his brothers, who have continued the business until the present time. They employ from 400 to 500 hands, depending upon the condition of the trade.

Charles W. Hendel started making fur hats on South Third street in 1889 and has continued a large plant until the present time.

Reading Hat Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1905 for the manufacture of stiff fur hats at Reading and has been in the business since, employing about 100 hands. This plant is the successor of G. W. Alexander & Co. at Twelfth and Muhlenberg streets.

Wool Hats.—The manufacture of wool hats has been continued without interruption from the beginning of Reading.

J. G. Mohn & Bros. started in 1871 and have continued until the present time, employing about 300 hands and being one of the largest plants of the kind in Pennsylvania.

John R. Miller and brother Henry began at Reading in 1879 and continued until 1905, when John R. retired. Since then the business has been car-



ried on as *Henry R. Miller & Co.*, with about 200 hands.

C. F. Kessler began in 1876, and for upward of thirty years has carried on the plant successfully under the name of *C. F. Kessler & Sons* (William and George, who were admitted as partners), employing from 70 to 100 hands.

Hendel Hat Company is composed of George Hendel and sons, John and William, and Harman Haigh; organized in 1901 for the manufacture of wool hats. They employ from 125 to 150 hands, having succeeded Wetherhold & Co. Previously W. H. Reinoehl & Co. had carried on the plant for twenty years.

Caps.—The *Reading Hat & Cap Company* has been engaged in making cloth hats and caps since 1897, employing from 10 to 20 hands.

HAT BLOCKS:

In 1888 *Matthias C. Sigmund* engaged in the manufacture of hat blocks of all kinds and has continued until the present time. He employs 6 hands.

HOOKS AND EYES:

John W. Granger, who was employed at Philadelphia for twenty years in the manufacture of hooks and eyes, located at Reading in 1908 and incorporated a company for their manufacture, besides other metal goods, with a capital of \$30,000, which started a plant in January, 1909. Hands employed, from 25 to 30. The officers are John W. Granger, president; J. B. Kaighn, vice-president; F. A. Von Boynebergk, treasurer; and John Farrington, secretary.

ICE AND COLD STORAGE:

The business of supplying natural ice at Reading by the construction of a dam, erection of an ice-house and the cutting and storing of ice in the winter, was begun by Abraham Vivens before 1840 and he carried it on successfully for many years.

William I. Clous was also active in it for a long while before 1885. The dams were within the city limits. Since then numerous persons have come to engage in the business, but they secure their supplies elsewhere.

The *Mt. Penn Ice Company* is extensively engaged in supplying natural ice which is secured and stored in Cumru township.

Artificial ice was first made at Reading in 1892 by the *Reading Cold Storage Company*, which erected a large plant capable of producing sixty tons daily, and of storing 100 cars of materials, such as apples, eggs, butter, etc., and has operated it since very successfully. Other plants were established subsequently and carried on for a time. Its use is becoming more general annually on account of its recognized purity.

The brewing companies have also equipped their plants with machinery for producing artificial ice in great quantities for their own use, and also for certain private customers according to demand.

ICE-CREAM:

Ice-cream was made in limited quantities in the early history of Reading. For forty years before 1876, Alfred M. Souders and his brother George were active and successful in this business, besides making different kinds of candies and chocolates. During the past thirty years the following persons have been prominently identified with its manufacture in large quantities throughout the year, more especially in the summer season: *J. R. Shorman* (succeeded by A. M. Kershner), *C. M. Groff*, *John M. Fries*, *J. O. Koller*, *D. E. Houck* and *Isaac Barrett*.

JEWELRY:

The jewelers at Reading always manufactured various articles, but almost entirely to order, and they were mostly dealers. After members of different secret societies began to make frequent demands for badges, charms and emblems of various designs, the business of manufacturing them was established. Thomas W. Sweney was the first to engage in it extensively, having started about 1865, and continued it for forty years.

Charles G. Willson engaged in the business for himself in 1887, being the successor of his brother Thomas A. Willson, who started in 1868. He manufactures many articles to order and employs 6 hands.

G. A. Schlechter has been in the business since 1870, and, besides conducting a large jewelry business, carries on manufacturing quite extensively, more especially of badges and charms for secret societies, which are forwarded to all parts of the country.

Anderson Jewelry Company was started in 1903 by L. D. Anderson and J. H. Snyder for manufacturing jewelry of various kinds, but mostly badges, charms, rings, pins, wire-work, etc., and they employ from 12 to 18 hands. They are successors of C. T. Anderson, father of Mr. Anderson, who began at Reading in 1886.

Upward of thirty persons are engaged in the jewelry business as dealers, and they manufacture articles to order.

LADIES' GARMENTS:

In 1903, the *Great Eastern Manufacturing Company* started manufacturing ladies' garments, of various kinds, consisting of wrappers, skirts, dressing sacques and kimonos, and since then has produced large quantities which have been shipped to all parts of the country. The factory is situated at Sixth and Washington streets and employs from 30 to 50 hands; in brisk times over 100. The officers of the company are: D. E. Houck, president; J. W. Weidner, secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. M. E. Braungart, superintendent.

LAUNDRIES:

General laundry work was started at Reading in 1875, and the first Chinaman came here about 1880. The first steam laundry was started in 1879 by Joseph W. Auchenbach.



Excelsior Laundry was started in 1884 by Charles E. Witman and his brother Morgan, and it has been continued by different owners until the present time; by William F. Wilkinson since 1899, and he employs 35 hands.

Penn Troy Laundry, by William Y. and Frederick Schmucker in 1892, and continued till now, employing 48 hands.

Snow-Flake Laundry, by John W. H. Harpst in 1896 and operated since with 15 to 20 hands.

City Laundry was carried on by Wesley K. Loose from 1897 to 1900, when P. G. Patton became the owner and has operated it since with 14 hands.

Model Laundry, by Frank C. Stringer since 1897, employing 5 hands.

Gem Laundry, by Frank M. Heffner until his death in 1908, when he was succeeded by his son Harry. He employs 12 hands.

A. S. Templin carried on a laundry from 1902 to February, 1909, when he was succeeded by William Knabb, who continues the business with 6 hands. His laundry is called the "Bee Hive."

People's Laundry, by Lewis O. Davis in 1905, and he employs from 7 to 10 hands.

Snow White Laundry, by H. G. Ellis in 1908, and he employs 10 hands.

Reading Overall Supply Company was organized by John B. Bowers in 1903 and operated since, for washing overalls, with 2 to 5 hands.

Four Chinamen are also engaged in the business.

LEATHER:

The tannery business was prominent in Reading for over one hundred years, with plants in different parts of the place, but then it began to decline until the tanning by bark passed away entirely.

Ferdinand Goetz Sons Co.—This plant was started by Ferdinand Winter and Anthony Blatz in 1869 and operated by them until 1875; then Ferdinand Goetz took the place of Blatz, and the business was carried on by Winter & Goetz in a very successful manner until the decease of Goetz, in 1904, when the partnership business was settled by the retirement of Winter, and the sons of Goetz (Frederick W. and Karl) and his son-in-law, W. C. Billman, organized the firm of Ferdinand Goetz Sons Co. and have since carried on the business very extensively, employing 75 hands. They prepare cow, calf and sheep skins, using the alum process. It is the only industry of the kind now at Reading.

LEATHER GOODS:

The Reading Saddle Manufacturing Company was organized by Daniel F. Printz and incorporated in the year 1900, for the manufacture of leather goods, consisting of bicycle saddles, school bags and cases, lunch boxes, etc. The plant is situated at Nos. 316-320 Maple street, and in its different departments (including hardware specialties) employs 60 hands. It has been very successful and its several lines of goods are shipped to all parts of the country. The officers of the com-

pany are: Daniel F. Printz, president; Samuel H. Fulmer, treasurer; and Miller M. Deam, secretary and manager.

MALT:

The manufacture of malt was carried on quite extensively at Reading for about forty years by different parties, having been started in 1863 by Frederick Schuldt and Moses K. Graeff.

P. Barbey & Son, brewers, began in 1885 manufacturing malt for their own consumption and have carried on this department of their extensive plant until the present time.

MANTELS:

The marble mantel business was started at Reading by Daniel Miller about 1865, he having been engaged in the marble business at Fourth and Washington streets for some years; and about 1875 Henry C. Geissler and Thomas Watt embarked in the business of supplying slate mantels, which they carried on for a number of years until the decease of Watt. Geissler then established the *Penn Tile and Mantel Company* with his sons as partners and they have developed a large trade, which extends to all parts of the country. About twenty years ago wooden mantels began to be introduced and then gradually took the place of marble and slate mantels. They are manufactured almost entirely in the West.

MARBLE, GRANITE AND SANDSTONE WORKS:

P. F. Eisenbrown Sons & Co.—In 1875, P. F. Eisenbrown located at Reading, started a Marble and Granite Works and carried on the business until 1889, when he formed a partnership with his sons. The firm name has been continued until the present time. The works were located at Sixth and Elm streets until 1906, when they were removed to Muhlenberg township, along the P. & R. railroad, a short distance north of Reading. This firm is extensively engaged in preparing granite work of all kinds and its trade extends throughout Berks and the surrounding counties. They employ from 50 to 60 men. They still retain their yard in Reading.

Ernst Épp embarked in this business in 1891, and has been actively engaged in it until the present time. He employs from 25 to 30 hands.

Spangler Brothers, from Kutztown, located in Reading in 1908, having purchased the marble yard of F. F. Bressler after his decease.

John F. Moers and his son Frederick were engaged in the marble business on Penn street, above Second, for upward of one hundred years, more especially relating to cemetery work. *Herman Streckler* and his father were also identified with this business in a prominent manner for seventy years, the former having been distinguished as a designer and sculptor of rare talents. One of his most notable pieces of work is "Christ on the Cross" (also called the "Crucifixion") in Charles Evans cemetery.

Flagstone.—Jacob Mayer has been engaged at Reading, putting down flagstone pavement, since



1890, securing the stones from the Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania; also concrete and cement work. He employs from 10 to 30 hands.

Sandstone work for building operations was common before 1890; but since then it has not been popular, being used only in a limited way.

MATTRESSES:

In 1896, Frederick G. Hodges came from Wilmington, Del., and located at Reading for the manufacture of mattresses and springs for beds. He has carried on the business successfully until the present time, and now employs 16 hands.

METALLIC CORNICES:

The manufacture of metallic cornice and ornamental work for churches, public buildings and dwellings was started at Reading by *William T. Hain* and *A. J. Geissinger* in 1873 at No. 824 Court street. In 1873, Hain became the sole owner of the business and he has carried it on since at the same place. His work is forwarded to all parts of Pennsylvania. He employs from 3 to 5 hands.

William B. Yeager started in 1886 and has continued till now, employing from 6 to 10 hands.

Daniel H. Sohl started in 1895, and employs 12 hands. He is also engaged in manufacturing sheet-metal specialties for automobiles, etc.

PAINTS:

Aaron Wilhelm began the manufacture of paint at Easton, Pa., in 1857, and continued the business there until 1871, when he removed to Reading. His brother William H. was then associated with him under the name of *A. Wilhelm & Bro.*, and they continued the business until 1878, when William H. retired and Walter S. Davis was admitted in his stead. From that time the firm traded as *A. Wilhelm & Co.* In 1889 Aaron Wilhelm died and a company was incorporated under the name of "*The A. Wilhelm Co.*," of which Charles W. Wilhelm became president and Walter S. Davis secretary and treasurer, they serving these positions until the present time. They manufacture paints of every description and ship them to all parts of the country through distributing houses at Boston, Baltimore, Buffalo and Pittsburgh. The establishment was situated on Poplar street beyond Walnut until 1902, and until then was the largest paint enterprise in Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia. In 1902 it was removed to Exeter street, in Reading, and there it has continued in active and successful operation until the present time. The average number of hands employed is 75.

B. Frank Ruth was employed in the Wilhelm works from 1873 to 1881, when he organized a company for the manufacture of paints of all kinds, fillers for wood and iron, varnishes, japans, putty, etc., consisting of himself, C. Edward Hecht and Edward Scull. They traded as *B. F. Ruth & Co.* and established a mill at No. 229 South Eighth street. They carried on the business until 1894, when the mill was removed to No. 210 South

Eighth street, where larger facilities were provided and Mr. Ruth became the sole owner. His productions are forwarded to all parts of the United States. He has continued there until the present time, employing from 5 to 10 hands.

In 1887 F. H. Morgan, after being in the employ of the Wilhelm works for some years, began the manufacture of paints in a limited way with James Ruth as a partner, on Court street above Second, and in 1890 William G. Moore became associated with them. They located the works at Eleventh and Muhlenberg streets and carried on the same extensively. In 1896 H. H. Jackson and Jenkin Hill became the purchasers when Mr. Morgan established a place for himself at No. 122 Wood street, where he has continued until the present time, employing several hands.

PANTS FACTORIES:

In the year 1885, Solomon Hirshland and Isaac Samuel started a pants factory, trading as the Reading Pants Manufacturing Company, and carried it on until 1891, when Hirshland became the sole owner. In 1896 he located at No. 533 Penn Square and has continued there until now. He does a large and successful business and employs from 25 to 30 hands.

In 1895, Albert J. Brumbach established a fine three-story brick factory at Fourteenth and Muhlenberg streets for the manufacture of pants out of his own woolen cloths produced at the St. Lawrence Mills in Exeter township. He employs 100 hands.

In 1904, J. G. Leinbach & Co. also began the manufacture of pants and vests from their own cloths, which they produced at the Reading Woolen Mills, and they have since produced great quantities, employing about 80 hands.

PAPER:

The Reading Paper Mills is a corporation organized in 1886 with a capital of \$300,000, for the purpose of operating three superior mills in the manufacture of fine book and plate paper. The following sketch embraces the important facts of the three establishments:

Penn Street Mill.—In 1841 Philip Bushong, a prominent and successful distiller, moved from Reamstown to Reading, purchased a large brick building at the foot of Court street on the west side of Front (which had been occupied for several years previously as a machine shop) and converted it into a distillery. He carried on the business of distilling whiskey there until 1865, when he substituted the manufacture of paper, equipping the building with the necessary machinery for that purpose. He died in 1868. The mill was then carried on for several years by his son George and his son-in-law Alexander Jacobs for the estate, and afterward by his sons Jacob and Henry until 1887, when it was sold to the corporation named.

Packerack Mill.—In 1828 Asa Packer and Robert W. Packer purchased a large lot of ground at



the foot of Bingham street adjoining the Schuylkill canal from Daniel Seiders, a boat-builder, and erected thereon a large warehouse for storing merchandise in connection with operating boats on the canal. In 1853 the premises were sold to George R. Frill, who then converted the building into a large gristmill, and he and Solomon Brubaker carried on the milling business until 1872, when it was sold to Jacob Bushong, Henry Bushong and George B. Connard, and changed into a paper-mill. This mill was then operated by Mr. Connard for some years, and afterward by him, Christopher Loeser and James Symington, trading as the Reading Paper Company until 1882, when George F. Baer became the owner; and after the organization of the Reading Paper Mills, it was conveyed to the corporation. The building was enlarged and improved and subsequently an addition was built to it to supply a department for coating paper.

Tulpehocken Mill.—Samuel Bell owned and operated a gristmill at the mouth of the Tulpehocken creek, in Bern township, for a number of years, and subsequently until 1866 it was known as the Kissinging Mill. Then Benjamin F. Schwartz and William H. Schwartz became the owners. They converted it into a paper-mill, and carried on the manufacture of paper for two years. George W. Bushong then purchased the mill and operated it successfully until 1876, producing a superior grade of paper which had a wide reputation and came to be known in the market as the "Bushong Paper." The mill was afterward operated by different parties until 1882, when George F. Baer became the owner, and in 1887 he conveyed it with the two mills mentioned to the Reading Paper Mills.

The three mills have been operated by the corporation named very successfully until now, the Penn Street Mill producing fine book and plate papers; the Packerack Mill, book and coated papers; and the Tulpehocken Mill, manila paper exclusively. The product of the first two mills has been disposed of principally to publishers and lithographers in the United States for fine book work; and of the last in the United States and England for making sandpaper. Hands employed number 300, with James M. Miller as the general manager. The officers of the company are: George F. Baer, president; James N. Mohr, vice-president; Charles A. Bushong, treasurer; and Heber Y. Yost, secretary.

PATTERN WORKS:

In 1900, Howard F. Hawk started trading under the name of *Reading Pattern Works* for the manufacture of all kinds of patterns. He employs 3 hands.

In 1908, Henry Adams and William Betz began trading as the *Mt. Penn Pattern Works* and they employ 2 hands. They are successors of Daniel Madlem, who started at Reading in 1874 and continued until his decease in 1906.

In 1906, J. S. Creitz established a pattern works for supplying patterns of all kinds for machinery,

automobiles and ornamental work. He employs 5 hands.

Robert McLean started trading as the *Ideal Pattern Works* in 1905. He employs 2 hands.

PICTURE FRAMES AND GILDING:

Godfrey Graeff, a German, came to Reading in 1858, and carried on the business of gilding and manufacturing picture-frames of all kinds at No. 635 Penn street until 1871, when he was succeeded by Francis Woerner, and Mr. Woerner remained at the same stand until 1892, when he located at No. 22 North Fifth street, where he continued actively and successfully engaged in the business until his decease in 1903. His son *Oscar L. Woerner* succeeded him and he has carried on the business successfully until the present time. He made several displays of paintings by local artists, which attracted much favorable attention and his enterprise in this behalf was highly appreciated. He employs from 5 to 7 hands.

Reinhard Rieger learned this business under Mr. Woerner and continued with him from 1874 to 1879, when he went to Philadelphia to learn more about it. In 1883, he returned to Reading and began business for himself on Sixth street below Penn, where he continued with increasing success until 1900, when he removed to No. 5 North Fifth street, where he has continued until the present time. He employs 4 hands.

Jarius W. Ziegler started in the business in 1900, and he employs from 3 to 5 hands.

PLANING MILLS:

In the year 1869, George Gasser, Sr., came to Reading from Myerstown, established a planing-mill at Ninth and Green streets, and carried it on successfully until his decease in 1887, having traded under the name of Northeastern Planing Mill. It was afterward carried on by different parties until 1903 when the Northeastern Planing Mill Company became the owner and it has since operated the plant in a successful manner, with 45 to 50 hands. John L. Rhoads has been the president, treasurer and manager of the company, and Daniel C. Roth the secretary.

From 1835 to 1855, William B. Hertzelt was a prominent builder at Reading and he then established a planing-mill which was operated by him successfully until 1872. It was afterward run by different parties until 1893, when the F. Shunk Planing Mill Company became the owner, and it was operated by this company until 1902, when it was succeeded by the Penn Planing Mill Company, which has carried on the plant until the present time, employing about 65 hands. The officers of the company are: Harry Shunk, president; Conrad B. High, secretary-treasurer.

In 1871, a planing-mill was established on Spruce street below Third by Eisenhower, Fink & Co., and operated by them until 1877, when the firm name was changed to Fink & Co.; it was operated by this company until 1894, and afterward by different parties until 1901, when it came into



the possession of the Sheeder Planing Mill Company, with Benjamin F. Sheeder as president, which has carried on the plant since in a successful manner, employing 15 hands.

The Neversink Planing Mill Company, Ltd. (Frederick Hendricks, Joseph H. Wade and John H. Bechtel as partners), was organized in 1901 for carrying on a planing-mill along the Lebanon Valley railroad at Gordon street, and has since operated the plant successfully, with 30 and 40 hands employed. This mill is equipped for cabinet work as well as general mill work, which is a specialty.

ROPES, CORDS, AND TWINES:

The first ropewalk conducted at Reading was established there in the year 1829 by Thomas Jackson, an Englishman, along the southerly side of the Schuylkill canal between the Lancaster bridge and Jackson's lock. He then employed 5 hands and manufactured all kinds of ropes and twines. By 1850 he had developed his plant so as to employ from 15 to 20 hands. The superintendent of the Schuylkill canal, Samuel Griscom, patronized him extensively, whereby he came to make nearly all the ropes for the company and for personal owners of boats.

In 1850 the large freshet swept away his factory, and he located on First Hockley lane, between Eighth and Ninth streets (now beyond Greenwich street), transferring the plant from the extreme southern end of the city to the then extreme northern end. He erected a large two-story building and continued to manufacture ropes and twines by hand-spinning. About 1862 his business increased very much and he then introduced machinery, increasing the employes to 25. His ropewalk was built to the length of 1,450 feet. In 1875 his son Henry H. was admitted as a partner, and from that time the business was conducted under the name of Thomas Jackson & Son.

The senior partner died in 1878, when the entire plant became the property of Henry H. Jackson, but the firm name was continued. The business has been carried on very successfully until now. The works comprise three mills, and employ 150 hands. The productions are fine manila, sisal and jute ropes and cordage, twines and packing yarns of different kinds, which are forwarded to all parts of the United States.

This ropewalk has been the only establishment of its kind carried on at Reading. Other persons were engaged in the business of manufacturing ropes, cords and twines at different times, in a limited way, but it was previous to 1860.

William H. German has been connected with this plant as the chief clerk since 1890.

RUBBER STAMPS AND STENCILS:

In 1873, Francis H. Paff began making rubber stamps, stencil work of all kinds, police badges and corporation seals; and in 1882 he located his shop at No. 60 South Seventh street, where he has continued since, manufacturing the articles named on orders.

RUGS:

F. S. Kelley started manufacturing rugs out of rags in 1907, at Reading, and has continued until now, employing 4 hands.

SAND AND SPALLS:

For a period of upward of forty years sand has been removed from the base of Mt. Penn, near the extension of Buttonwood street, and the parties who engaged in the business of supplying sand from that vicinity for building purposes were Anthony Brown and William Sweimler; and the son of the former is still engaged in the business.

Mr. Sweimler was succeeded by John Roth, and Gallagher & Brisse, and since 1904 by Gallagher Brothers (John and James), who employ from 12 to 15 hands and remove annually about 7,000 tons of superior sand for all purposes, with the aid of a crusher.

James Gallagher has been doing business there also since 1905 as the Construction Supply Company in supplying sand and spalls. He employs from 10 to 15 hands.

George L. Kestner, Jr., has operated a sand works adjoining, for upward of ten years, employing several hands and a crusher. He has named his place "Alsando."

Haak Crusher.—Michael Haak owned a tract of land on the northern declivity of Mt. Neversink and there he opened a place in 1850 for supplying gravel and building sand. Operations were carried on in a limited manner until 1895, when the heirs of Mr. Haak with George E. Haak as manager put up a crusher plant, and since then they have supplied large quantities of sand for buildings and concrete paving, also large quantities of sienna paint.

SEWER PIPE:

E. S. Fox & Co. manufacture large quantities of sewer pipe at their Terra Cotta Works since 1870.

SHIRTS:

The manufacture of men's and boys' shirts at Reading was begun by Samuel L. McCulloch about 1872, and he carried on the business for a number of years; and during that time it was carried on also by William Laramy.

Nathan N. Sprecher began making shirts extensively in 1886, and he continued until 1890, when he was succeeded by John G. McGowan. In 1895 he established a large gents' furnishing store in the Y. M. C. A. building, No. 630 Penn street, and he continued there until his decease in 1907, when he was succeeded by his brother, J. Wallace R. McGowan, who then incorporated *The John G. McGowan Company* to continue the business, including the manufacture of shirts. The company employs 5 hands in this department.

In 1880, James S. Brusstar and Albert C. Weile engaged in the business and after trading together for a year Mr. Brusstar became the sole owner. He then operated the factory until Jan. 1, 1898, when his brother, George M. Brusstar, and Henry



M. Rettew were admitted as partners. Since then they have traded as *James S. Brusstar & Co.* The firm solicits orders for custom shirts of all kinds in Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia, in which a large trade has been established. They employ 50 hands.

Albert L. Smith came from Trenton in 1882 and located at Reading, opening a gents' furnishing store at No. 431 Penn Square. In 1887, he began the manufacture of men's and boys' shirts, which he continued until his decease in 1904, when he was succeeded by his son, who has since carried on the business, employing 5 hands.

S. Liebovitz and his two sons located at Reading in February, 1909, for the manufacture of men's and boys' shirts, and on April 1st established a factory on the third floor of the P. & R. R. Co. shop at Seventh and Chestnut streets, where they have become extensive manufacturers, employing upward of 150 hands. They are interested in numerous factories of this kind, the largest being at Reading, Pottstown, Myerstown and New York City.

In March, 1908, *George H. Kaufman* and *Charles H. Wesley* began trading as *Reading Shirt Company*, for the manufacture of men's and boys' shirts of all kinds, made out of woollens, percales and madras. They employ from 40 to 50 hands and their factory is located at Seventh and Bingaman streets.

In October, 1908, *S. K. Cohn* and *I. Sattenstein* began to trade as *Wide-awake Shirt Company*, for the manufacture of men's and boys' shirts. They employ from 30 to 50 hands.

Isaac M. Fidler started in 1889 at No. 1042 Buttonwood street, and has continued until the present time, employing from 10 to 12 hands.

SHOES:

Curtis & Jones Co.—*Frederick W. Curtis* and *Frederick S. Jones* came to Reading and embarked in the wholesale and retail shoe business in the old Academy Building on Penn Square and continued for three years when they sold out the retail department and started the manufacture of infants' and children's shoes at No. 527 Penn Square, occupying the second, third, and fourth floors of the building, in connection with the wholesale business. They remained there until 1883, when they removed their plant to the Felix Building, northwest corner of Fifth street and Penn Square. They then employed 25 hands and produced 500 pairs daily.

In the year 1889 they erected a substantial four-story brick factory at Fifth and Court streets which they supplied with the latest improved machinery to meet the demands of their rapidly increasing business, and they then employed 175 hands and produced 2,000 pairs daily. In 1902, upon the incorporation of the company, the plant was removed to a much larger and more improved building at Nos. 724-732 North Eighth street,

where this great enterprise has continued until the present time, with increasing success. The employees have come to number 700 and the daily product has been increased to 10,000 pairs of infants', children's and misses'. Goodyear-Turn shoes, which are shipped to all parts of the country. The officers of the company are: *Frederick W. Curtis*, president; *Frederick S. Jones*, secretary-treasurer; and *Clement H. Quinn*, manager.

Penn Shoe Company was incorporated in 1902 for the manufacture of infants' shoes. Its plant is located at No. 320 Maple street, and employs 100 hands. It has been operated very successfully, and its goods are shipped to all parts of the world. The officers are *Daniel F. Printz*, president and manager; *Samuel H. Fulmer*, treasurer.

In 1906, *Charles W. Sharnan* and *George A. Raab*, trading as the *Crescent Shoe Company*, began the manufacture of children's shoes at No. 222 Pearl street, and have continued until now, employing about 50 hands.

There are numerous boot and shoe makers at Reading, numbering upward of 150, who manufacture for customers in a limited way, but their attention is chiefly directed to repairing.

SILK:

Grimshaw Mill.—In the year 1887 *John, George* and *David Grimshaw*, trading as *Grimshaw Brothers*, came from Paterson, N. J., for the purpose of establishing a silk-mill at Reading and operating it in connection with their large plant at that place, if properly encouraged in their proposed enterprise. In this behalf, a number of public-spirited citizens organized an association and secured subscriptions, amounting to \$65,000. The building committee comprised *Henry Eppihimer*, *George D. Stützel*, *Lewis Kremp*, *Jerome L. Boyer* and *William Rosenthal*, who purchased a half-block of ground at Eleventh and Marion streets and erected a superior three-story brick structure 50 by 250 feet and leased it for a term of years, with an option of purchase, to the *Grimshaw Brothers*, who then equipped it with machinery for the manufacture of silk, costing about \$75,000.

They carried on the mill successfully until Jan. 1, 1908, producing large quantities of dress goods, linings, thrown silk, and yarns, which were shipped to New York. Then they became an incorporated body, trading under the name of *Grimshaw Brothers Company*, and the plant was transferred to this company which has since operated it, employing from 300 to 400 hands, mostly girls. The officials of the company are: *John Grimshaw*, president; *David H. Grimshaw*, treasurer; and *George Grimshaw*, secretary.

On Jan. 9, 1889, the building was blown down by a tornado, the most destructive storm that ever visited Reading. The mill was in full operation at the time. Many of the hands escaped, but 17 were killed and over 100 injured. A public meet-



ing of citizens assembled in the Court-House on Jan. 10th for supplying aid to the suffering families, and altogether \$12,000 was received from the people of Reading and elsewhere, which was judiciously distributed by a committee appointed for that purpose.

In 1905, Charles Steiner and William H. Talcott associated together as the *Steiner & Talcott Silk Company*, for the manufacture of broad silks, 36 inches wide, in all colors, and have since carried on the business at Nos. 234-240 Moss street, employing 85 hands.

SLATE SINKS:

Martin R. Hoch has manufactured slate sinks for dwellings since 1894, and employs 3 hands. His trade is mostly local.

Slate mantels constituted a prominent industry for thirty years until about 1900; then they became too costly and the business was discontinued.

SOAP:

In 1883, *Franklin K. Miller* began making fulling, laundry, scouring and toilet soap, and also washing powders for local customers. His factory was established on Eighteenth street, near Perkiomen avenue, and there it has continued until the present time. He employs 4 hands and produces annually about 400 tons.

SPECTACLES:

In the year 1871 *Thomas A. Willson* erected a three-story brick factory for the manufacture of spectacles and equipped it with machinery especially designed by him. He began operations in 1872 and then established the only place in the world at which were made all the parts that constituted a complete pair of spectacles. The sand for the lenses was obtained at Berkshire, Mass., and the steel wire for the frame was also obtained mostly in Massachusetts. The lens was tinted. All kinds of spectacles were made and a large business was developed that extended throughout the world. In 1885 employment was given to 240 persons, and the average daily production was 3,800 pairs. The several machines were manufactured in the factory under Mr. Willson's direction and they are perfect specimens of superior workmanship. Owing to the great competition in trade, the manufacture of lenses was discontinued in 1886, and these are now imported from Europe in great quantities, of which a large stock is kept constantly on hand. Now the factory is devoted entirely to the manufacture of low-priced and medium grades of spectacles and this factory and that of the Pennsylvania Optical Company, also at Reading, are the only ones in the United States which produce exclusively the cheaper grades of steel spectacles and eye-glasses. The daily production is 10,000 pairs, and the average number of hands employed is 200. The proprietor's son, *Frederick Willson*, has been manager

since 1893. There are only eight other factories in the United States, but their product is mostly gold and silver frames.

In 1886 *William W. Essick* started making cheap spectacles and eye-glasses at his home on Third street, near Franklin, and continued there until 1901, when he moved into a large factory which he established at No. 125 South Fifth street. He enlarged this plant in 1906. He now employs 120 hands, manufactures daily nearly 1,000 dozen, including goggles, and ships his productions to all parts of the world. He has been trading from the beginning under the name of *Pennsylvania Optical Company*.

SPICE AND ROASTING MILLS:

George W. Moyer came from Easton, and in 1872 associated with *John McKnight* for the manufacture of spices of all kinds. In 1878 Mr. Moyer started for himself and carried on the business until his decease in 1889, when the mill at Rose and Elm streets was purchased by *Kurtz & Mayers*, wholesale grocers, by whom it has been operated since. Employees, 4; monthly product, 30 tons, which is shipped to all parts of Pennsylvania. Large quantities of coffee also are roasted in the establishment.

In 1861 *Francis X. Blessing* and *John Shoemaker* began roasting coffee on Carpenter street near Spruce. In 1870 they removed to No. 311 Chestnut street, and shortly afterward Mr. Shoemaker died. Mr. Blessing then became the sole owner and he carried on the business until his death in 1902, when his son *Henry* succeeded him, carrying on business as the *Reading Steam Coffee and Spice Mills*. He employs 3 or 4 hands and roasts 1,500 pounds of coffee and peanuts weekly, which are disposed of in Reading and different parts of Pennsylvania.

Augustus C. Kleinschmidt was engaged in this business at No. 27 Peach street for many years, until his decease in 1904, when he was succeeded by his son *Charles*, and the son and son-in-law, *Irvin Schick*, have carried on the establishment since under the name of *Kleinschmidt & Schick*.

George Becker has also carried on the roasting of coffee and peanuts for some time, but in a limited manner.

STAINED-GLASS WORKS:

J. M. Kase, trading as *J. M. Kase & Co.*, began making stained-glass work in 1885 at No. 511 Washington street, and has continued there. He designs and manufactures memorial windows for churches and artistic work for private residences, which he puts up in different parts of Pennsylvania. He employs 20 hands.

STOVE LINING:

The Terra Cotta Works of *E. S. Fox & Co.* produce stove lining at their plant in large quantities.

TERRA COTTA:

For Works.—*John Lotz* carried on a hat factory at the foot of Franklin street from 1800 to 1824;



then Riah Gillson purchased the property and converted the building into a general store for the purpose of supplying boatmen with groceries, provisions, etc. It was continued as a store for about forty years. In 1868 Eli S. Fox, Walter K. Hagy and William Keely, trading as Fox, Hagy & Co., established a terra cotta works on the premises. In 1870 Hagy and Keely sold their interests in the business, and George K. Whitner became a partner, the firm trading as E. S. Fox & Co. Eli S. Fox died in 1890, and his sons, William, Benjamin F. and Eli W., succeeded him. In 1896 the interests of Mr. Whitner and the son William were purchased by Benjamin. The firm manufactures all kinds of terra cotta ware, especially stove lining, sewer pipe and vases, which are shipped to all parts of the United States, and they employ from 25 to 30 hands.

TOBACCO:

The following persons are engaged at Reading in manufacturing shorts for chewing and smoking tobacco:

Breneider Brothers, trading as the *Atlas Tobacco Company*.

George W. Green, trading as the *Reading Tobacco Manufacturing Company*.

Morris Goldman.

Hantsch & Rhein.

George W. Lehr.

George Maltzberger.

Walter Orth, trading as the *Pompey Manufacturing Company*.

Charles Shirk & Company.

TRUNKS:

Joseph J. Weightman started making trunks at Reading in 1888 and continued for twenty years. His son Burt E. started for himself on Jan. 1, 1906. Besides making trunks of various kinds to order, he also manufactures suit cases.

UMBRELLAS:

Leopold Hirsch located at Reading about 1847 and manufactured umbrellas until 1860, when he removed to Philadelphia.

In 1869, August Rolland, a Frenchman, came to Reading and embarked in the business and it was continued successfully by him, and afterward by his wife until her decease in 1902, when their sons Augustus and Charles carried it on together until 1905, when they separated and established places of their own. Augustus J. Rolland is located at No. 722 Penn street and makes a specialty of a "brass-tip" umbrella, employing several hands. Charles L. Rolland is at No. 631 Penn street and makes a specialty of a "silver-tip" umbrella, employing 5 hands to meet the demands of his trade.

WALL-PAPER:

In 1905, a plant was established at Reading in one of the large buildings of the P. & R. R. Co. at Seventh and Chestnut streets, for the purpose of manufacturing a medium grade of wall-paper by a number of enterprising gentlemen

who organized a company which was incorporated under the name of *Sun Wall Paper Manufacturing Company*. J. W. Screven has been the manager of the plant. A large and successful business has been developed which extends throughout the country.

WASHING MACHINES:

In 1894, James H. Knoll and Nathan S. Althouse, associating together as *Knoll & Althouse*, designed and patented an improved washing-machine which they called the "Queen", and until 1906 made large quantities of them, when Mr. Knoll became the sole owner and he has since carried on the business. He employs 7 hands.

In 1899, Augustus G. Christman designed and secured a patent for the "Royal" washing-machine, and large numbers of them have been made and sold throughout the country. He died in July, 1908, and since then his son H. Herbert Christman has conducted the business for the estate.

The *Reading Manufacturing Company* was incorporated in 1904 for the manufacture of washing-machines and since then has manufactured them in large quantities, known as the "Lehigh," "Five Arrow," "Big Five" and the "Reading Motor." The manager of the plant is James A. Kalbach, and the president of the company Paul K. Leinbach. The company employs 12 hands.

In 1907, Daniel F. Printz designed and patented an improved washing-machine called the "Printz," which is manufactured in large quantities at the Reading Wood Pulley Works.

WINDOW VENTILATORS:

In the month of December, 1908, William G. Hintz, William E. Althouse, and Howard B. Heath associated together under the name of Hintz & Althouse for the purpose of manufacturing window ventilators out of wood and metal, after a special design of their own, and since then have manufactured large quantities of them at No. 640 Cherry street. They employ 3 hands.

WOOD PULLEY WORKS:

In the year 1893, the Reading Wood Pulley Company was incorporated and its factory was established at No. 247 Poplar street. In 1899, the plant was removed to Eleventh and Muhlenberg streets, where it has continued until the present time, manufacturing all sizes of wood pulleys, which have been shipped throughout the United States and foreign countries. The hands employed number 75. The officers of the company are: Daniel F. Printz, president; Samuel H. Fulmer, treasurer; and Henry J. Glaser, manager.

WOOLEN GOODS:

Robert M. Shouse, of Easton, Pennsylvania, came to Reading in 1859, and began the manufacture of gingham and shirting check. Some months afterward, his enterprise was destroyed by fire. He then selected a lot on Fourth street beyond Elm as a suitable location and erected a



two-story stone factory with basement, where he resumed the manufacture of the articles mentioned, and continued the same until 1864, when he converted it into a woolen-mill for manufacturing jeans, plaids, and doe-skin cloths. Jonathan G. Leinbach became the manager and in 1867 he was made a partner, the firm trading under the name of R. M. Shouse & Co. They employed 50 hands, and their annual production amounted to \$100,000, which was shipped to commission houses at New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. The firm continued operations until 1875, when Mr. Leinbach became the sole owner. Shortly afterward he formed a co-partnership with Aaron S. Leinbach and William F. P. Davis, who traded as J. G. Leinbach & Co. In 1880 John Shadel became a partner. In 1887 Rev. Mr. Davis died and his interest was purchased by Mr. Leinbach.

In 1889, the senior member gave an interest in the business to his three brothers, Daniel, Albert and Mahlon; and in 1894, appreciating the long-continued fidelity of certain of the older employes who had worked in the mill from twenty to thirty years, he also gave them an interest. In 1896 Aaron S. Leinbach died, and the surviving partners (Leinbach and Shadel) purchased his interest. After the firm had organized in 1875, improvements were made to the plant, additional ground was purchased, and new machinery was introduced from time to time. In 1880, the manufacture of jeans was discontinued. The volume of business increased steadily, and with it the number of hands.

The plant is equipped with the best machinery, including four self-acting spinning machines with 1,508 spindles, and a 100-horse-power Corliss engine. The enterprise has been named the Reading Woolen Mill, and the manufactured cloths are so known in the market, having a superior reputation. This is the only enterprise at Reading in which the older and more experienced hands have been permitted to share in the profits of the business. The generosity of the senior member has been appreciated and it has resulted in mutual benefits, as well to the firm as to the recipients.

In 1904, the company introduced the manufacture of pants and vests from their own cloths, and has since been very successful. In all the departments of this enterprise, the employes number from 180 to 200.

The officers of the company are: J. G. Leinbach, president; A. Ellsworth Leinbach, treasurer; Samuel W. Reiff, secretary.

DEPARTMENT STORES.—The dry-goods merchants at Reading continued to handle distinct lines of merchandise in their respective stores until about the "Centennial" year; then the most enterprising proprietors began to add different lines of goods in order to satisfy the demands of their increasing trade.

Kline, Eppihimer & Co.—In 1862, Amos K. Kline and Henry Eppihimer engaged in the general

dry-goods business at No. 522 Penn Square. Jerome L. Boyer was a partner from 1865 to 1869 and Calvin K. Whitner from 1869 to 1877. In 1888 they enlarged their store, adding the greater part of the adjoining building on the west, four stories in height, and then it became a recognized department store. In 1892, they re-organized the firm by admitting William W. Kline (son of the senior partner), Richard Lenhart and Franklin Rieser as partners, and thence they traded as Kline, Eppihimer & Co.

In 1905, they made another enlargement of their store by taking in the adjoining building to the west (excepting the first floor), which gave them superior accommodations for their rapidly increasing trade. At first the store employed 5 hands; in 1900, over 100, and in 1909, upward of 200; which shows the development of their business. Their trade extends throughout Berks and the surrounding counties.

C. K. Whitner & Co.—Calvin K. Whitner began his business career in 1861, in Oley township, Berks county, not far from the place of his birth, when he entered the country store of Jacob S. Spang & Son at Spangsville. He remained there as a clerk until 1865, when he went to Friedensburg and with Edwin S. Bear as a partner, trading as Whitner & Bear, carried on a store for two years. He then removed to Reading and was employed as bookkeeper with Kline, Eppihimer & Co. for a short time, when he became a partner. After continuing in this firm until 1877, he started a dry-goods store for himself at No. 432 Penn Square, with six employes. By the year 1883, his trade had increased so much that he was obliged to obtain larger quarters, and in that behalf he removed to the commodious store building at Nos. 442-444 Penn Square. In 1887, his son Harry became a partner and the store was enlarged to twice its previous capacity. The firm traded as C. K. Whitner & Son until the son's decease in December, 1890. In 1891, Mr. Whitner added other lines of goods and he made his place a department store; and by way of anticipating additional facilities for his growing business, he purchased two properties on the west, Nos. 438 and 440. In 1896, a faithful employe for many years, John A. Britton, was admitted as a partner, and the firm name was changed to C. K. Whitner & Co.; and Jan. 1, 1907, Mr. Whitner's son-in-law, John Rick, became a partner. In April, 1898, the adjoining buildings, Nos. 438-440, were attached to the store as an annex, and an interior direct connection was made, evidencing the continuous growth of the firm's trade. In 1909 they employed 175 hands and upward, and the stock comprises many lines of goods generally carried in a large department store. Their patrons come from all points in the Schuylkill, Lebanon and East-Penn Valleys.

J. Mould & Co.—In 1872, Jonathan Mould removed from Newburgh, N. Y., to Reading, and opened a general dry-goods store, which came

to be popularly known as the "Bee Hive." He then employed ten hands and did an annual business of \$40,000. As his trade increased he made several changes in location for enlarged accommodations. In 1887 his brother-in-law, George H. Bell, became a partner and the business was thence carried on under the name of J. Mould & Co. In 1892 the firm erected a large four-story brick building at Nos. 647-649 Penn street and made it a department store to supply all kinds of articles, such as dry goods, notions, laces, furnishings, chinaware, jewelry, etc., and placed each department in charge of a competent manager. Shortly afterward, they added a wholesale department, and set apart the third and fourth floors of the building for this branch of their business. They have several traveling salesmen on the road, supplying many orders to merchants in Berks and the surrounding counties. The employes number 100 hands and upward.

Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart.—Josiah Dives, George M. Pomeroy and John Stewart came from Hartford, Conn., in 1876 and began a general dry-goods business at No. 533 Penn Square, trading as Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart. Their establishment was known as "The Globe Store." In several years they removed to Nos. 442-444 Penn Square, and the store at that place also becoming too small in a short time they secured the premises at Nos. 606-612 Penn street in 1882 and established a large store there. From that time, owing to increasing trade, they have made enlargements in the various departments of the building, more especially in 1901, when they secured the adjoining premises to the corner at Sixth street and erected a large seven-story building as an extension. They employ 550 hands.

Lord & Gage.—Charles Lord and R. B. Gage of New York City, trading as Lord & Gage (incorporated), located at Reading in 1908, for the purpose of conducting a large and progressive department store in connection with a syndicate of high-grade stores, now numbering twenty-nine, which extend from New York City to Tacoma, State of Washington, and they established a superior place of business at Nos. 422-426 Penn Square, in a commodious four-story brick structure whose dimensions are 60 feet wide and 230 feet deep, with a superficial area of 65,000 square feet. The store was opened to the public in November with a full line of goods in twenty-four departments, and immediately attracted great public attention, and though here less than a year has nevertheless developed a large volume of business. The appurtenances of the store are of a superior order, the rosewood show-cases and the mahogany shelving costing \$50,000. The store employs 350 hands and upward. Mr. Gage (the president of the corporation) is general manager of this store, having moved with his family to Reading and made the city his place of residence.

IRON INDUSTRIES.—The industries at Reading engaged in the manufacture of iron articles before 1836 consisted entirely of blacksmith shops and they were limited in extent, like those we see still in the country districts to-day, employing at most several hands; but the introduction of the railroad stimulated iron works of various kinds. More and more from that time every year and for the past fifty years they have been the most prominent in the industrial life of Reading and have exceeded the other establishments in furnishing constant employment to the greatest number of working-people. The P. & R. R. Company works and the Reading Iron Company works started practically together in the development of Reading and they are properly placed at the beginning of the description of the iron industries.

P. & R. R. Co. Works.—The extensive works of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company at Reading deserve special mention at the head of this part of the chapter detailing the industrial affairs of the city, on account of their continued existence here for the past seventy years, the large number of men constantly employed, and the immense amount of wages paid. The construction of the railway in 1836 immediately stimulated enterprises of various kinds, and caused large sums of money to be invested in manufacturing concerns. On that account not only capital but many mechanics concentrated here, and buildings multiplied rapidly to answer the demands of the increasing population.

The first large shop was erected in 1838 on the half-block on the west side of Seventh street between Franklin and Chestnut streets, where it has continued until now; and each decade found the company with additional facilities for the manufacture and repair of engines and cars, and for the handling of freight not only in the vicinity of Seventh and Chestnut streets, but on both sides of the railroad, extending beyond Walnut street for nearly two miles. The total income to a large number of working-people of Reading from this source since 1836, exceeds \$60,000,000, and it can be stated that a great proportion of the substantial growth of Reading in buildings, stores, factories, churches and schools is directly attributable to the company's disbursements here.

The possessions of the company at Reading are valued at an enormous sum; from which it is apparent that a considerable part of its receipts was also expended here in making large permanent improvements of the most substantial character. The principal office of the company at Reading is situated in the main railroad station at the conjunction of its several branches with the main line, and this has come to be the territorial center of the city. The aggregate number of hands employed in the offices and shops and on the railroads at Reading in December, 1908, was near 3,000; and the monthly wages exceeded \$125,000, or a total for the year exceeding \$1,500,000.

The present locomotive shops were built during 1901 and 1902, and their capacity was almost doubled during 1905 and 1906.

At the passenger station there were 2,452 trains during December, 1897, which carried 66,650 passengers to and from Reading; at the freight depots there were 4,193 trains which moved 167,700 cars; and the aggregate tonnage directly affecting local interests at the several freight depots was 127,000.

The following statistics are supplied in this connection for the year 1897 to give the reader an idea of the wonderful extent of the business done by the company at Reading:—Passenger trains, 27,000; passengers carried, 800,000; freight trains over 50,000; freight cars moved, over 2,000,000; tonnage, 1,500,000; excursion passengers, 80,338. In 1908, these figures were exceeded.

Most of its mechanics in the several departments have been recognized during the last forty years, here and elsewhere, for their skill and efficiency; indeed so widespread has their reputation become that a statement in applying for work that they served their apprenticeship with the company, worked in its shops, operated an engine, or conducted a train, has been regarded as a sufficient recommendation. This can also be said of its clerks, many of whom have begun as messenger boys, and risen to the highest positions of different departments. A considerable number of its employees have been in continuous service for thirty and forty, even fifty years. This feature of the history of the company is particularly noteworthy.

Reading Iron Company.—The Reading Iron Company was organized Aug. 12, 1889, and purchased from the assignee of the Reading Iron Works its various plants, consisting of the Tube Works, Reading Rolling Mill, Scott Foundry, Sheet Mill and Steam Forge, nearly all of which have since been rehabilitated, enlarged in scope, and vastly improved in equipment.

The Keystone Furnace was acquired in 1889, and the Crumwold Furnace at Emaus in 1895. The Oley Street Rolling Mills were built in 1896 and the Ninth Street Rolling Mill (formerly the P. & R. Rail Mill) was added in 1896, and remodeled in 1899 and 1902. The Montour Rolling Mills at Danville (built in 1845, and where, in October of that year, the first T rails in America were rolled) were acquired in 1895, and rebuilt in 1901. The Danville Puddle Mill was purchased and repaired in the early part of 1905. The present forge on North Ninth street was built and equipped with powerful machinery and electric cranes in 1901-02, and took the place of the old Steam Forge, built in 1850. The Scott Foundry (originally built in 1851, and where guns were made during the Civil war, as well as several since, including the Brown Segmental Wire Wound Gun) was rebuilt in 1905-06 and equipped (as are all the other plants) with modern, up-to-date machinery and appliances. The company owns and operates 7,538 acres of coal lands in Somerset county,

known as the Somerset Coal Department, which supplies the various departments with bituminous coal.

The company owns a large interest in the Pennsylvania Steel Company, one of the largest independent steel companies in the United States.

The many separate departments of the company enable the management to control the manufacture from the assembling of the raw materials to their conversion into the finished article, the largest output of which is tubular goods, consisting of wrought-iron pipe, plain or galvanized, for gas, steam and water; charcoal iron and steel boiler tubes for locomotive and other uses; oil well casing and tubing; hydraulic and line pipe, etc., ranging from 1-8 inch to 20 inches in diameter.

The two Blast Furnaces have a total annual capacity of 180,000 gross tons of pig-iron and foundry-iron of superior quality, and the five distinct rolling-mill plants have an annual capacity of some 200,000 gross tons of finished rolled products, skelp, bar-iron, etc., in the manufacture of which the mills consume over 170,000 tons of their own puddle-bar. Cotton compressors, sugar-mills, ordnance and general machinery are made at the Scott Foundry, and heavy marine, engine and general forgings, up to fifty tons, are made at the forge.

The Tube Works was the nucleus from which sprang this splendid aggregation of industrial plants. In 1836, Benneville Keim, George M. Keim, Simon Seyfert and James Whitaker, trading as Keim, Whitaker & Co., erected a rolling-mill and nail factory, known as the Reading Iron & Nail Works, at the foot of Seventh street, between the Schuylkill canal and the Philadelphia & Reading railroad (which had just been constructed). It was here that the first large stationary engine in Berks county was introduced for driving machinery. Bar-iron was made in large quantities; also cut nails by twenty-six nail machines. The employees numbered 250. In 1846, the firm name was changed to Seyfert, McManus & Co. (Simon Seyfert, and his son Simon; John McManus, a railroad contractor, who had helped to build the Philadelphia & Reading railroad in the early forties; J. V. R. and Nicholas Hunter, Horatio S. Trexler, and a few others, were, at various times members of the firm) and it so remained up to 1878, when the Reading Iron Works was incorporated. The first pipe-mill was built in 1848. Butt-weld pipe was made by the old tong process, drawing first one-half, and then the other, and lap-weld pipe was made shortly after, the edges of the skelp being then scarfed with sledge hammers; but these methods have since been greatly revolutionized. Charcoal iron tubes were made a few years later.

There has arisen from this modest beginning not only one of the largest independent tube works in the country, alone comprising nine mills, capable of producing 150,000 gross tons of tubular goods annually, but as well the many other important plants or departments above mentioned, some of

which comprise several establishments in themselves.

The products of the company have an unrivaled reputation at home and abroad, and there is a constantly increasing demand for them in all sections of the world. The utmost care is exercised to maintain the highest standard of excellence in the various lines of manufacture. It is the largest industrial enterprise in Berks county; in fact, one of the most important in eastern Pennsylvania, and it employs in the neighborhood of 5,000 men.

The success of the Reading Iron Company is largely due to a few men. George F. Baer, president from 1889 to 1901 (now president of the P. & R. Ry. Co.), with the assistance of F. C. Smink, formerly treasurer and general manager, now president, financed the company in a most conservative manner. With a small capital at their command, by careful, judicious and economical business management, judgment and acumen, there have been created extensive plants and valuable assets with an aggregate value manifold in excess of the nominal capital upon which the company was founded. The rebuilding and reconstruction of the old plants and erection and creation of new ones, as well as the physical management of the various departments, have been and still remain under the personal and efficient direction of Mr. Schulmann.

George F. Baer is chairman of the board; F. C. Smink, president; George Schulmann, vice-president and general manager; Frederick Butler, treasurer; George W. Delany, secretary.

AUTOMOBILES.—The first automobile as a means of improved locomotion in the United States by the use of gasoline was made at Springfield, Mass., by Charles E. Duryea in 1891. In February, 1900, he located at Reading, in Berks county, and established a plant on River Road at the foot of Elm street, for the purpose of building automobiles driven by gasoline. He organized a company and carried on the business for about seven years, in which time the company built 300 cars. They were named "Duryea" and disposed of successfully, but the capitalists associated with him having declined to advance the necessary money to carry on the plant more extensively in order to meet increasing competition, the further operation of this new enterprise at Reading under the management of Mr. Duryea was suspended. He was then succeeded by the Middleby Auto Company, which had started a similar enterprise and manufactured an automobile which was named the "Middleby." The plant has been made very successful, turning out weekly a number of popular cars and affording employment to upward of 70 men.

About or shortly before this time, James L. Eck (who was engaged in manufacturing knitting machines) began the manufacture of automobiles driven by steam, in a limited manner, and disposed of several cars.

Soon afterward, James C. Reber also engaged in the enterprise (having previously for some years

been very prominently identified with the manufacture of bicycles) by organizing the Acme Motor Car Company, and he produced a popular car, called the "Acme." He carried on the plant until 1904; then it passed through several ownerships until 1907, when it was purchased by H. M. Sternbergh and he has been at the head of the company since, giving the car great popularity throughout the country. The plant employs from 125 to 150 hands and produces annually about one hundred large and powerful cars, driven by gasoline.

The Relay Bicycle Company was also changed by Henry C. England into the Relay Motor Company for the manufacture of automobiles, and the plant was carried on several years.

Arthur H. Yocum and his father, George Y. Yocum, started manufacturing the "Speed-well" automobile and motor engines in 1904. Since then they have enlarged their plant and formed a company with Isaac Hollenbach and J. S. Hornberger as partners, trading as A. H. Yocum & Co. They employ upward of 20 hands.

The following parties manufacture parts relating to the automobile:

Parish Manufacturing Company, steel frames.

Biehl's Carriage Works, metal bodies.

Keystone's Wagon Works, bodies (aluminum, steel, and wood).

American Die & Tool Works, transmission and gear.

A. H. Yocum & Co., motor engines.

AUTOMOBILE FRAMES.—N. E. Parish organized the Parish Manufacturing Company for the manufacture of pressed steel automobile frames and chrome nickel steel specialties, and established a plant at Reading in June, 1906, in the P. & R. R. Co.'s machine shops at Seventh and Chestnut streets, where the company has since carried on the business very successfully, employing 150 hands. Special expensive machinery is used for the purpose. Its production, numbering many thousand frames, is shipped to all the leading manufacturers of automobiles in the United States. The officers of the company are: R. E. Jennings, president; N. E. Parish and J. E. Sullivan, vice-presidents; W. B. Kunhardt, treasurer; and E. J. Jennings, secretary.

BICYCLES.—The manufacture of bicycles was a large and well-conducted business at Reading for about ten years from 1890 to 1900, and thousands of bicycles were shipped to all parts of the world, which gave Reading a reputation in this line of business equal to any other place; then it began to decline gradually until now there is only one establishment actively engaged in the business, the Reading Standard Manufacturing Company, of which the active spirit since 1896 has been William F. Remppis. Several parties who are engaged in repairing bicycles also manufacture them in limited quantities: Rhode Brothers, John G. Nuebling, and James Mayo (who had been in the business at Potts-

town for seventeen years and became the successor of Charles T. Heckler after his decease in 1908).

BOILER WORKS.—West Reading Boiler Works was started in 1870 by Enos M. Reazor, and he was succeeded in 1878 by Sterling, Weidner & Co.; in 1894 by Thomas K. Dalzell, and in 1901 by Jacob S. Peipher (Reading Scale & Machine Company). In this department of the works 25 men are employed.

Penn Boiler Works was started in 1883, and is now carried on by Hiram P. Yeager with 10 men and upward.

Orr & Sembower, who started in business in 1884 and moved to Millmont in 1891, are also engaged in the manufacture of boilers in connection with engines, employing upward of 100 hands.

BOLT AND NUT WORKS.—J. H. Sternbergh located at Reading in 1865 and established a large bolt and nut works which he carried on in a very successful manner until 1899, employing upward of 700 men; then the American Iron & Steel Company became the owner and has since operated the plant in a very successful manner with James Lord as president and J. L. Swayze as the local manager, employing from 600 to 800 hands. The principal office of this company is situated at Lebanon, where a similar large plant is operated.

CAR WHEELS.—In 1897, the Reading Car Wheel Company was organized and incorporated by certain persons from Buffalo, N. Y., for the manufacture at Reading of chilled iron wheels for street and steam railway cars, and the plant has been operated successfully until now. H. H. Hewitt has been the president from the beginning, and the plant employs from 50 to 75 men, and turns out daily upward of 200 wheels.

CHAIN BLOCK WORKS.—Herman P. Roeper established a hoist works at Reading in 1896, and in 1904 sold the department relating to the manufacture of chain blocks to F. H. Howard, of New York, who then incorporated a company for this special branch of business, and it has been carried on since in a successful manner, employing from 25 to 40 hands.

J. G. Speidel has also been engaged in the manufacture of chain blocks since 1896, in connection with other specialties, such as cranes, tramways, elevators, dumb-waiters, etc., and in his establishment employs from 20 to 40 hands.

COAL BUCKETS.—George Focht began the manufacture of iron coal buckets or tubs for the loading and unloading of coal on and from canal-boats, and he was succeeded by Warren & Addison and from 1893 to 1908 by Robert D. Seidel, who then sold the factory to B. Franklin Biehl; and Biehl has operated it since, employing from 6 to 10 hands.

COKE OVENS.—The American Coke and Gas Construction Company was incorporated in 1903

as a branch of a large New York enterprise for the manufacture of by-product coke ovens, according to the "United-Otto-Coke-System," and has since operated a plant at Reading employing from 35 to 40 hands, on Court street, below Second.

CRANE AND HOIST WORKS.—In 1888, John G. Speidel began the manufacture of hoisting machinery and has continued in the business until the present time, excepting for two years, from 1894 to 1896, when Herman P. Roeper was a partner. In his iron works he also manufactures tramways, elevators, chain-blocks, etc., which are sent to all parts of the country. He employs from 20 to 40 hands.

Herman P. Roeper, under the name of Reading Crane & Hoist Works, since 1896 has been engaged in the manufacture of overhead tramways, elevators, hoisting machinery, etc., which he has forwarded to all parts of this country and foreign countries. He employs from 20 to 50 hands.

DIE WORKS.—The American Die & Tool Company was organized at Wilmington, Del., in 1894, for the manufacture of tools, dies and special machinery, and removed to Reading in 1901; incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania in 1906, with a capital of \$60,000, and employs upward of 80 men. C. S. Dundore is the secretary, treasurer and general manager of the company, and the others associated with him are J. H. Sternbergh and H. M. Sternbergh. Their product is shipped to all parts of the country. This is an important industry at Reading for its exceptional productions.

ELEVATORS.—John G. Speidel and Herman P. Roeper have been engaged separately in the manufacture of elevators since 1896; also Adam W. Haag (under the name of A. W. Haag & Co.) in connection with the manufacture of milling machinery, and he employs 15 hands.

ENGINE AND BOILER WORKS.—In 1884, W. Harry Orr and Clarence H. Sembower, trading as Orr & Sembower, began the manufacture of vertical, horizontal and hoisting engines, and vertical and horizontal boilers at Second and Pine streets, but their business developed so rapidly that by the year 1891 they were obliged to remove into larger quarters, which they established at Millmont, in Cumru township. Since then they have been very successful, their productions being sent to all parts of the world. A corporation was formed in 1890 with a capital of \$150,000. The employees number 250. W. Harry Orr has been the treasurer and general manager from the beginning, and Mr. Sembower the president.

The Reading Oil & Gas Engine Company, A. H. Yocom & Company and John G. Xander are also engaged in manufacturing engines.

EXPANSION STEAM JOINTS.—William King embarked in the business of manufacturing expansion steam joints and has been successfully engaged until the present time, employing 40 to 60 hands.

FENCES.—The first to engage in the business of manufacturing plain and ornamental iron fences at Reading was Louis Nendoerffer, who began before 1860 and continued until his decease in 1884, when he was succeeded by his son Frederick, and Frederick carried on the business for twenty years. William L. Rempis has also carried on this branch of business in his large establishment since 1896; and William L. Kiefer, in his works since 1895.

FIRE ESCAPES.—William F. Rempis began manufacturing ornamental iron work at Reading in 1885, in a small frame building and by the year 1892 his trade had developed to such an extent that he was obliged to erect a large brick building and he has continued actively engaged in the business until the present time. He employs from 40 to 70 hands. Besides carrying on the manufacture of fire escapes extensively, he supplies plain and ornamental iron work, stairways, elevator inclosures, railings, window guards, grill work, etc.

William L. Kiefer has been engaged in a similar business in a successful manner at Reading since 1895, and employs from 15 to 30 hands.

FOUNDRIES.—A number of iron foundries at Reading are carried on in connection with established works of various kinds, such as the Reading Iron Company, the P. & R. R. Company, the Hardware Works and the Stove Works, but are used entirely in carrying on their own business. There are three foundries which take in outside work as a regular business: the Gray Iron Foundry Company (A. L. Frame), which employs 15 to 25 molders for all kinds of small castings; the Reading Scale & Machine Company (Jacob S. Peipher), which employs 15 to 20 molders for heavy and light castings of all kinds; and Mohn & Kershner (W. H. Mohn & E. L. Kershner), who embarked in the general foundry business in 1903 (in the plant of the National Brass Works), and manufacture all kinds of small castings for the trade here and elsewhere, employing from 50 to 75 hands.

FURNACES.—Two large iron furnaces have been very prominent industries at Reading for many years: the Henry Clay, erected by the Eckerts in 1844, and latterly owned and operated by the Empire Iron & Steel Company (but not in operation for two years); and the Keystone, erected by the Bushongs in 1869, which has become a part of the extensive works of the Reading Iron Company.

HARDWARE.—Hardware of all kinds, for building and other purposes, has been produced at Reading for upward of fifty years, and the works have been very prominently identified with the welfare and development of Reading. Three large plants are carried on, the Reading Hardware Company (founded by the Harbsters and their brother-in-law, William M. Griscom), the Penn Hardware Company (founded by the Heizmann Brothers), and the Chantrell Tool Company; and they together employ about 2,500 hands.

Reading Hardware Works.—In 1851, William Harbster established a blacksmith shop at the foot of Sixth street for general blacksmith work, and in 1852 his brothers Matthan and John became associated with him, under the name of Harbster Brothers, for the manufacture of builders' hardware, such as locks, bolts, fasteners, latches, etc., when they erected a foundry. Shortly afterward their brother-in-law, William M. Griscom, became associated with them as a partner, and they then traded as Harbster Brothers & Co. until 1872, when the name was changed to Reading Hardware Company. As their business increased their plant was gradually enlarged until 1895 and by that time the establishment covered five acres of ground, all substantial buildings, three and four stories high, with their employes numbering nearly 1,000 and the annual wages paid exceeding \$100,000. Their productions included all kinds and styles of hardware, both plain and ornamental, and these came to be shipped to all parts of the world. Their trade was largely increased by making a specialty of furnishing all the necessary hardware in the construction of large hotels and office buildings at New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco and other large cities in this country and foreign countries, their unique and artistic designs in fine bronze obtaining the preference with the most prominent architects and builders, and in this behalf they established branch offices in the cities named. Their volume of business for some years has exceeded a million dollars, the number of employes 1,500, and the annual wages \$500,000, which truly evidences the wonderful development of this great industrial establishment from an ordinary blacksmith shop, and its importance and influence in the history of Reading during the past fifty years. Its productions have been displayed at all the great expositions in the United States and Europe, and their superiority was recognized by the awarding of medals and diplomas.

The business was incorporated in 1886. In 1887, the greater part of the plant was destroyed by fire, but it was immediately rebuilt and much improved in arrangement and equipment, making it one of the finest industrial plants in the United States.

The officers of the corporation are: Matthan Harbster, president; William M. Griscom, vice-president; S. Y. Reigner, treasurer (since 1903 and also secretary since 1907); and John E. Harbster has been the manager for upward of twenty years.

Penn Hardware Works.—In 1877, C. Raymond Heizmann and his brother Albert A. Heizmann began the manufacture of builders' hardware and specialties of all kinds, at the foot of Spruce street, between the canal and river and, like the foregoing, grew in size and importance until their plant came to cover several acres of ground, their employes to number 1,000 and their annual wages to exceed a quarter of a million dollars. Their goods

likewise have found a market all over the world. A nail department was added in 1898.

The business was incorporated under the name of Penn Hardware Company in 1896. The officers of the company are: C. Raymond Heizmann, president; Theodore I. Heizmann, vice-president; W. A. Heizmann, treasurer; and I. S. Ermentrout, secretary.

The Reading Saddle Manufacturing Company also manufactures large quantities of hardware specialties, cast-hammers, hatchets, ice-picks, shears, pincers, pulleys, can openers, glue pots, vises, clamps, tongs, etc. A specialty is made of nickel-plating. The plant is at Nos. 316-320 Maple street. The company employs 60 hands. It was incorporated in 1900.

Chantrell Hardware and Tool Company (Inc.) was organized in 1888 (being named after John Chantrell, an Englishman, who designed certain improved tools) and the business was conducted successfully on Seventh street near Chestnut for several years, when the plant was removed to Millmont, where large brick buildings were erected to meet the demands of increasing trade. The company manufactures screw drivers, nail pullers, and some hardware specialties, but its principal line is builders' hardware, consisting of locks and design goods. It has a large domestic and foreign trade. Hands employed, 165. Harry C. Shaaber has been manager since 1903.

KNITTING MACHINERY.—*James L. Eck* located in Reading in 1891 and engaged in the manufacture of knitting machines after a pattern with improvements designed and patented by himself, being a "new improved 15-16 automatic and plain seamless machine," and known as the "Boss"; and in 1898 he established a factory at Reed and Elm streets. He has continued in a successful manner until the present time, employing from 30 to 50 hands, and turning out about 600 machines annually. In 1898 he built the first steam automobile in Reading and operated it successfully.

Windsor Knitting Machine Works.—The Windsor Machine Company was incorporated in 1903 with a capital of \$100,000 for the manufacture of full-automatic split-foot knitting machines and full-automatic striping machines, as a specialty, and a large trade has been developed, the machines being sent to all parts of this country, and from 70 to 80 hands are employed. John B. Hipwell is president of the company; George D. Horst, secretary-treasurer; and William W. Hout, manager.

LAWN-MOWERS.—The manufacture of lawn-mowers is included with the hardware specialties of the Reading Hardware Works.

The American Die & Tool Company is also engaged in their manufacture.

MACHINE SPECIALTIES.—A number of shops and factories are carried on constantly for the man-

ufacture of specialties in the line of machinery and they employ from several to a dozen hands:

Jacob S. Peipher
A. W. Haag & Company
G. W. Francis
Greth Machine Company

King Machine Works
Samuel Davis
W. D. Mohn

MOTOR CYCLES.—In 1896, William F. Remppis organized the Reading Standard Manufacturing Company for the manufacture of the "Reading Standard" bicycles, and this company has since carried on the business very extensively, shipping thousands of its bicycles to all parts of the country and the world. In 1903, the company began the manufacture of motor cycles, with the same name, and this branch has also become very successful. In 1908, the company produced 2,700 of them, and for the year 1909 has arranged to produce from 4,000 to 4,500. Over 6,000 bicycles were manufactured in 1908. From 300 to 400 hands are employed. B. Frank Royer, of Philadelphia, is president of the company and Mr. Remppis is general manager.

MOTOR ENGINES.—Arthur H. Yocum designed a special engine for automobiles which has become very popular, and since 1904 he has been manufacturing many of them, having formed a company with his father, George Y. Yocum, and traded under the name of A. H. Yocum & Co.

NAILS.—*The Penn Hardware Co.* manufactures great quantities of nails in connection with general builders' hardware. This was one of the iron products of Seyfert, McManus & Co. and their successors, the Reading Iron Company, for many years.

PIPES AND TUBES.—A large and principal department of the extensive Reading Iron Works is the manufacture of large quantities of wrought-iron pipes and tubes, of various sizes; which is mentioned in connection with the description of the Reading Iron Company.

PLUMBERS' SUPPLIES.—J. W. Van Meter began making plumbers' supplies at Reading in 1907, and after a year was succeeded by W. S. Cooper, of Philadelphia, who has carried it on in connection with similar works at Philadelphia. He employs from 45 to 50 hands, his plant being established in the old Johnson Foundry at Eighth and Chestnut streets.

RADIATOR WORKS.—In 1883, Daniel L. Adams began the manufacture of steam and hot water radiators and boilers at No. 212 South Eighth street, Reading, and continued the business at that place until 1892, when the plant was removed to a larger and much improved building along the Lebanon Valley railroad at Front street, and there it has continued until the present time with increasing success. In 1896 he organized and incorporated a company under the name of Reading Radiator Com-

pany. Its radiators and boilers are shipped to all parts of the country. The employes number 110. Mr. Adams has been the manager of the works from the beginning, and Grant Nagle has been the secretary and treasurer since 1897.

RAZORS.—Frederick H. Arnold of Reading designed and patented a fountain-pen safety-razor, and then organized a company for its extensive manufacture. The company was incorporated in 1907, and capitalized at \$200,000; and it has been successful in shipping its razors to all parts of the world. It employs 25 hands, and is located at Third and Buttonwood streets. The officers are: Edward C. Nolan, president; John H. Keppelman, secretary and treasurer; Robert B. Lance, manager.

ROTARY METERS.—*The Rotary Meter Co.* of New York City established a plant at Reading in 1906 for the manufacture of rotary meters, intended for large gas consumers who wish to measure their consumption. It is the only industry of the kind in the United States, and its product is shipped to all parts of North and South America. These meters weigh from seventy-five pounds to five tons. Hands employed, from 6 to 8. Charles T. Mayers has been the superintendent here. It is located at Seventh and Franklin streets in a portion of the P. & R. R. Co. machine shop.

SCALES.—In 1845, Levi K. Mohr and Andrew Dehart began manufacturing large scales, establishing a factory at the corner of Cherry and Carpenter streets. Dehart retired in 1850 and Mohr carried on the business until 1872. Different parties occupied the plant in the production of scales with turbine water-wheels and general machinery until 1887, when the *Reading Scale & Machine Company* was organized by Jacob S. Peipher, Levi M. Francis and J. L. Balloch, and this company continued their manufacture in connection with engines and boilers. The plant was removed to the foot of Chestnut street in 1903 and Peipher became the sole proprietor. He has continued the manufacture of scales, engines, boilers, etc., in large quantities until the present time, under the same name, employing from 50 to 75 hands.

Levi M. Francis, who was connected with this company for a number of years, is also engaged in the manufacture of large scales on orders.

SHEARS.—In 1895, the *Wilkinson Shear Co.* was incorporated for the manufacture of shears of all kinds for shearing sheep, horses, grass and hedge, and located a plant at Ninth and Bingaman streets, where the business was continued in a successful manner until 1903, when the plant was removed to a new and improved building erected by the company on Laurel street, below Fifth. The trade extends to all parts of the country, and 30 hands

are employed. The company also produces scythes for cutting grain, grass and bushes. The officers are: John J. Kutz, president; Cyrus G. Derr, treasurer; and Philip Bushong, secretary.

The Keiser Manufacturing Company (David H. Keiser) produces shears, besides metal fixtures, he having been connected with the Wilkinson Shear Company for a number of years. His plant is situated in West Reading.

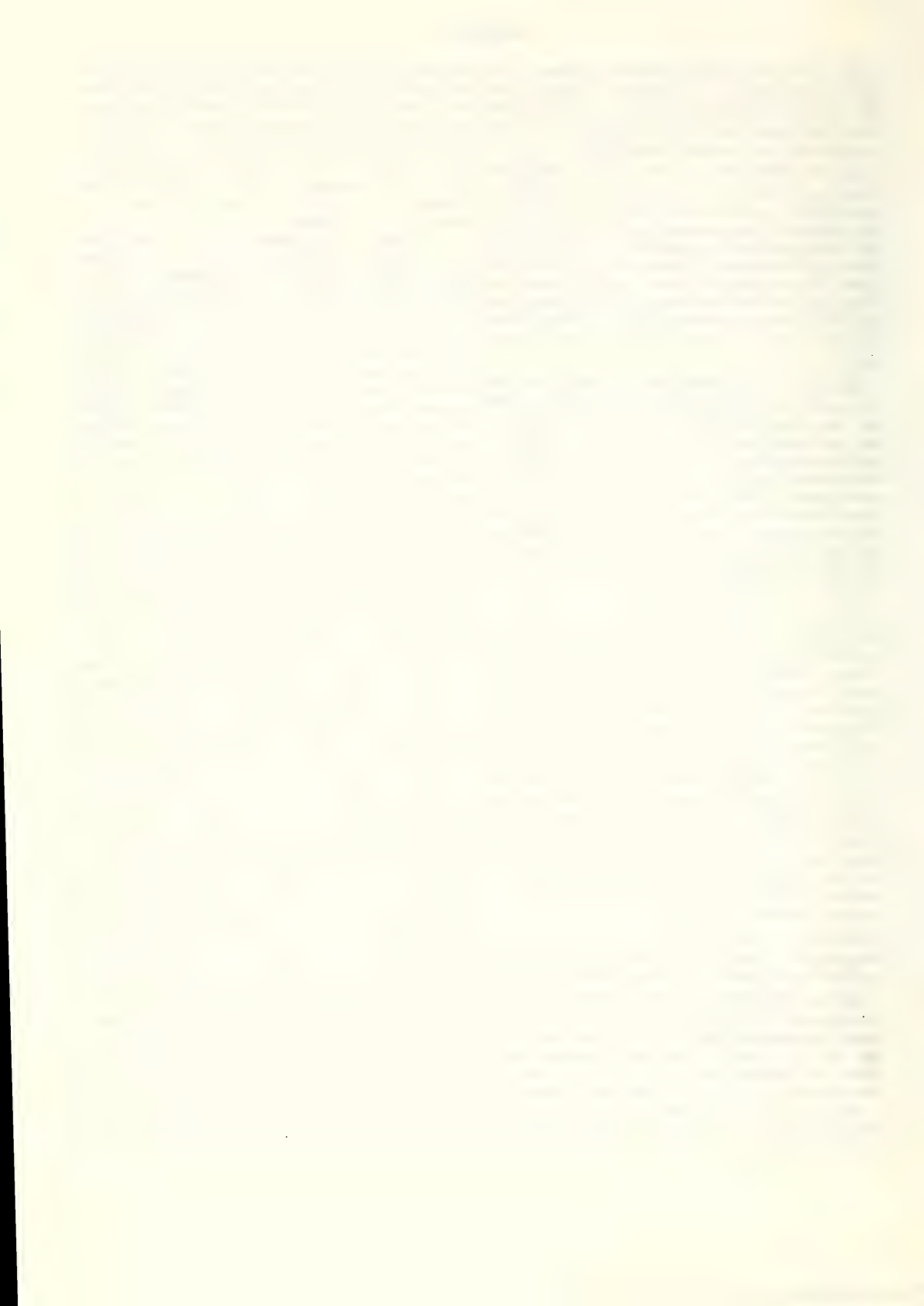
D. P. Harris and Samuel Monroe of New York City, and W. M. Silhart and Melot Deam, of Reading, associated together and established the *Penn Shear Works* at Reading in 1904, for the manufacture of shears of all kinds, and since then have produced large quantities which have been shipped to all parts of the country. They employ 5 hands.

SHEET IRON is made in great quantities by the Reading Iron Company in its sheet-mill, which is situated along the Schuylkill river between Chestnut and Spruce streets. This mill became the property of the Reading Iron Works (afterward the Reading Iron Co.) in 1865. It had been put up several years before by Lauth, Berg & Co. as an individual enterprise.

SPECIAL MACHINERY.—In the year 1901 Messrs. W. D. Mohn, Austin Riegner and Robert Riegner, of Mohnton, located at Reading for the manufacture of special machinery, established a plant at Cherry and Carpenter streets (where the Reading Scale & Machine Company had been), and have since carried on the business under the name of *W. D. Mohn & Co.* They employ 10 men.

STEEL CABINETS.—This new product is manufactured by the Keiser Manufacturing Company in connection with sheep shears, in its plant at the west end of the Penn street bridge, opposite Reading; which is mentioned in the description of the Borough of West Reading, Chapter XI.

STEEL WORKS.—*Carpenter Steel Company.* James H. Carpenter located in Reading in the year 1889 and with the aid of New York capitalists organized a steel company for the manufacture of armor-piercing projectiles for the United States government. A large plant was established along the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad at the foot of Exeter street and in 1890 the company began to supply the government with large numbers of projectiles ranging in diameter from four inches to thirteen inches, and weighing from a few pounds to half a ton, and continued to furnish them for nearly ten years, when the plant was gradually changed to the manufacture of commercial crucible tool steel of a superior character, for which a large trade has been developed. This plant is one of the largest and most important in Reading, and employs from 600 to 1,000 hands, which evidences the importance and value to the community of this local enterprise. The company was reorganized in 1904 with a capital of \$1,200,000. The officers are Robert E. Jennings, presi-



dent; W. B. Kunhardt, secretary and treasurer and general manager.

Reading Steel Casting Company.—In 1906 the Reading Steel Casting Company was incorporated with a capital of \$125,000 for the manufacture of steel castings for the general trade and then purchased the Brylgon Steel Works at the foot of Lafayette street for its plant, and it has since carried on a very successful business, employing 150 hands. Arrangements are now being made to double the capacity of the plant to meet the increasing demands for its product. The officers of the company are W. D. Seargent, president; D. W. Yeckley, secretary-treasurer; and J. Turner Moore, vice-president and general manager.

STOVES AND HEATERS are made in great quantities by the Reading Stove Works, the Mt. Penn Stove Works, and the Prizer-Painter Stove and Heater Works (the last situated at Millmont opposite Reading), which are sold to all parts of the world.

Reading Stove Company. In the year 1866, Jesse Orr, John R. Painter, Peter W. Nagle, William Grander, Henry C. Posey, Elijah Bull, William H. Schick, Jasper Sheeler and Charles Egolf associated together under the name of Orr, Painter & Company for the manufacture of stoves, furnaces and heaters of all kinds, and located their foundry on Canal street, between Chestnut and Spruce streets, beginning with fourteen molders. They carried on the business in a very successful manner with increasing success for twenty years, when they became incorporated under the name "The Reading Stove Works, Orr, Painter & Co.," with a capital of \$400,000. The business has been so developed that branch offices have been established in different parts of the United States, at the large cities, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Buffalo and Chicago, for the distribution of their productions. For a number of years this company supplied the Postal Department of the United States with the postal boxes for the street collection. The employees number from 275 to 300. Daniel F. Printz has been the president since 1902, and Edgar Amole the secretary and treasurer since 1900.

Mt. Penn Stove Company.—William M. Stauffer was connected with Orr, Painter & Co. from 1869 to 1881 and then retired from the firm for the purpose of organizing another stove company in Reading and with John McKnight established a plant along the Lebanon Valley railroad at Third street. In 1882, a company was incorporated by them under the name of Mount Penn Stove Company and this company has conducted a successful business since then, enlarging the plant and increasing the employees as the developing trade demanded. They manufacture superior stoves and heaters and their trade extends throughout the country. They employ from 100 to 125 hands. M. Brayton McKnight was one of the organizers with his father,

and served the company as secretary and treasurer from 1882 to 1907, when he was succeeded by his nephews, John R. McKnight, as the treasurer, and William R. Schaeffer, as the secretary, and he became the president.

Prizer-Painter Stove & Heater Company.—Orr, Painter & Co. established a large stove works in Millmont as an addition to their plant at Reading, to meet the demands of their trade, and it was used by them until 1899, when a new company was formed and incorporated by the name of Prizer-Painter Stove & Heater Company, with a capital of \$350,000, for the manufacture of stoves and heaters of all kinds and sizes, and this company then became the owner and has carried it on successfully until the present time. They employ 150 hands and have a large trade. The officers are C. S. Prizer, president; E. T. Painter, vice-president; R. L. McCall, treasurer; and W. W. Light, secretary.

OCCUPATIONS.*—The following list is presented to show the number and character of the several occupations at Reading in April, 1909:

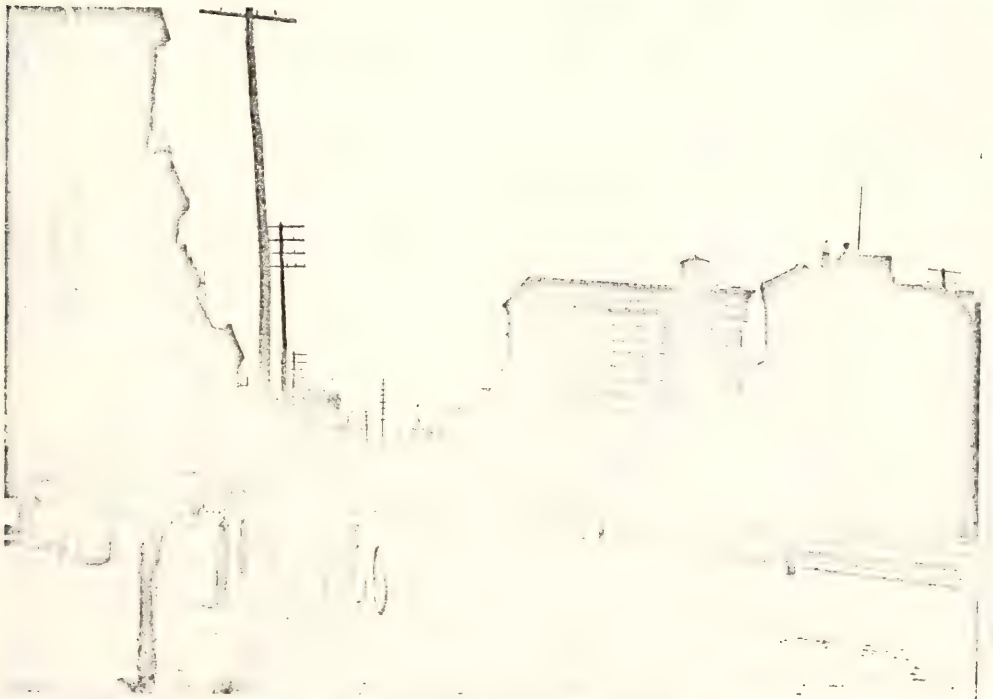
Architects	9	Director or Publisher	1
Artists	10	Dressmakers	290
Attorneys-at-law	119	Druggists	44
Auctioneers	7	Dry Goods, etc.	71
Automobiles or parts. .	16	Dyeing	12
Barbers	134	Electrical Contractors ..	10
Baths (Turkish)	2	Electrotypers	2
Bell Hangers	4	Enbalmers	6
Bicycles	9	Employment Bureaus ..	2
Billiards and Pool.	6	Engraving	3
Bill Posters	2	Express Companies	2
Birds, etc.	5	Fish, Truck, etc.	21
Blacksmiths	27	Flag Stones, etc.	12
Bleaching Straw Goods. .	1	Florists	20
Boarding Houses	65	Flour, Feed, etc.	29
Book-sellers, etc.	7	Fruit	15
Bootblacks	20	Furniture	22
Bowling Alleys	4	Furrier	1
Bricklayers	125	Gas Fixtures	3
Brokers	41	Gents' Furnishings, etc. .	20
Building Contractors ..	37	Grain Shippers	4
Butchers	88	Grocers, Retail	367
Carpet Cleaners	3	Grocers, Wholesale	7
Carpet Dealers	7	Gunsmiths	2
Caterers	5	Hardware	18
Chair Caners	2	Hair Workers (human) .	5
Chair Makers	2	Harness-makers	10
Chewing Gum	1	Hides	4
Chipware, etc.	3	Hotels and Saloons.	174
Chiropodists	2	Ice Dealers	13
Cigars and Tobacco.	76	Installment Houses	7
Civil Engineers	5	Insurance, Fire	30
Clothiers	41	Insurance, Life	15
Coal, Wood, etc.	40	Jewelers	31
Commission Agents	7	Junk Dealers	18
Confectionery	75	Layers-out of dead.	10
Coopers	4	Leather	4
Coppersmith	1	Liquors	18
Cough Drops	2	Live Stock	3
Dancing Masters	4	Local Express	18
Dentists	50	Locksmiths	2
Detectives	2	Lumber	15
		Machine shops	20

* For Table, Nature of Industries, 1900, published by the United States Census Department, see page 237.





PENN SQUARE, LOOKING WEST FROM FIFTH STREET



PENN SQUARE, LOOKING EAST FROM FIFTH STREET



SOUTH SIDE OF PENN SQUARE, LOOKING WEST FROM FIFTH STREET



PENN SQUARE, LOOKING EAST FROM FOURTH STREET

Manicures	5	Roofers (Slate)	6
Map Publisher	1	Roofers (Tin)	10
Marble Yards	8	Saddlery, etc.	10
Massage	4	Sewing Machines	4
Mercantile Agencies	6	Shoe Dealers	34
Milk Dealers	30	Shoemakers	120
Milliners	32	Shoe Uppers	1
Millwrights	2	Sign-makers	6
Music Teachers	89	Stables, Boarding	25
Newspaper Dealers	4	Stables, Liverv. etc.	12
Newspapers, etc.	27	Stables, Sale	4
Notaries	43	Stair Builders	3
Notions, Wholesale	1	Stamping	2
Novelties	3	Steamship Agents	4
Nurses (Trained)	33	Stenographers	8
Oculists	6	Stock Dealers	4
Opticians	12	Stone Masons	86
Painters, etc.	125	Stone Yards	12
Patent Solicitors	2	Storage	7
Pattern-makers	5	Tailors	100
Pavers	4	Teachers, Music	92
Pawn Brokers	5	Teachers, School	331
Pension Attorneys	6	Tea and Coffee	4
Photographers	9	Telegraphers	48
Physicians	157	Telephoners	100
Piano Dealers	15	Theatres	4
Piano Tuners	14	Ticket Offices	5
Picture Frames, etc.	5	Tinsmiths	40
Plasterers	75	Tool Sharpeners, etc.	2
Plumbing, etc.	40	Toys	3
Printers	30	Typewriter Dealers	6
Produce Dealers	7	Undertakers	9
Publishers	10	Upholsterers	10
Rags, Paper, etc.	10	Veterinary Surgeons	7
Real Estate Agents	50	Wall Paper	16
Restaurants	62	Wax Workers, etc.	4
		Wheelwrights	7

MERCANTILE LICENSES FOR 1909.—The mercantile appraiser, John G. Herbine, reported the following retail and wholesale licenses for business places in the county for the year 1909:

Retail	Wholesale
Reading	Reading
Boroughs	Boroughs
Townships	Townships
Total	Total

Pool and Billiards.—The mercantile appraiser reported for 1909 the following tables:

Reading	47
Boroughs	18
Townships	4
	69

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS

The internal improvements of Reading comprise those buildings and constructions of a public nature, whether paid for by the government or by private individuals and corporations. The following comprise those that have contributed to the general welfare, whose total cost to the community and to the projectors amounts to many millions of dollars.

MARKET-HOUSES.—In 1766, the Penns granted a charter to the town for holding semi-weekly markets; also semi-annual fairs on June 4th, and Oct. 27th; and then a market house was erected in East Penn Square. It was a building about 120 feet long

and 20 feet wide, consisting of a double row of square brick pillars, covered by a double-pitched shingle roof, and contained 32 stalls. A similar building was erected in West Penn Square in 1799, which contained 38 stalls. They were rebuilt in 1846 with iron columns and paved extensions for increased accommodations at a cost of \$6,400, and abandoned in 1871, when they were sold and removed. The semi-annual fairs were discontinued in 1852, when the Berks County Agricultural Society was organized to give annual exhibitions in their stead.

Private Market-Houses.—In 1871, three large private market-houses were substituted in the place of the public buildings on Penn Square:—South Reading, West Reading, and Farmers'. In 1874, two more were erected:—Northeast, and Keystone; and in 1884, another, Tenth and Chestnut. In 1886, the Keystone market-house was converted into the Academy of Music, and the Fifth street market-house substituted, having been altered from a skating-rink, now Woodward and Church streets; it was discontinued in 1901. In 1894, the Tenth and Windsor was erected; in 1897, the West Buttonwood, near Schuylkill avenue; and in 1903, the rear part of the "Crystal Palace Hotel" was converted into a market-house. There are now nine in the city. The Farmers' has three annexes and is the largest in Reading, having altogether 414 stalls. The West Reading had the Potteiger Annex from 1895 to 1906.

WATERWORKS.—The inhabitants were supplied with water from wells and cisterns until 1821. The first pump at Reading was erected in East Penn Square in 1750 by direction of the Penns, and when the market-house was built in 1766, this pump occupied a position in the center. The well was fifty-three feet deep, and the water was of a limestone character. It was abandoned in 1871, when the market-house was removed.

In 1821, a water company was formed to supply the inhabitants with water, and then a reservoir was constructed at the head of Penn street with a storage capacity of 100,000 hogsheads. In 1865 the city purchased the plant for \$300,000. The sources of supply then were Hampden spring, Egelman spring, and Bernhart creek. The supply was largely increased by introducing the water of Antietam creek in 1874, and of Maiden creek in 1889, the former flowing by gravity through large iron pipes about three miles to the city line, and the latter being forced through similar pipes about six and a half miles to the city line, by three Worthington pumps, with a total capacity of 30,000,000 gallons. Total net cost of water supply to April 6, 1908, \$3,060,931; debt, \$280,806. Total storage capacity, 186,000,000 gallons; daily possible supply, 17,392,000 gallons; average daily consumption, 12,242,564 gallons. Total quantity consumed for year 1907-08, 4,480,778.545 gallons. Supply is from six sources, which, with *per centum*, is as follows:



Antietam, 26.35; Bernhart, 20.54; Maiden creek, 50.35; Egelman, 1.78; Hampden and Hampden drift, 0.98.

Filtration.—Sand filtration of Egelman supply was begun in 1903, of Antietam in 1905, and of Bernhart in 1909. Total daily capacity, 7,000,000 gallons; estimated cost, \$250,000. The Maiden creek supply will be filtered in 1910; estimated daily supply, 10,000,000 gallons, and cost, \$400,000.

PUBLIC ROADS.—The public roads figured prominently in connection with Reading from the beginning of its history. The ford at the Schuylkill was a central point from which they were extended in various directions. When the town was laid out, there were regular highways; north to the mouth of the Maiden creek, almost in a straight line for six miles; northeast through Alsace; southeast through Exeter to Philadelphia; southwest through Cumru to Lancaster; and west through Cumru and Heidelberg, also in a straight line, to Lebanon. And afterward others were established to facilitate travel from Reading to the different sections of the county.

STREETS.—The streets were established when the town was laid out; and the personal and royal names given to them by the proprietaries were continued until changed by the borough council in 1833. The numeral system was then substituted for the streets running north and south; and those running east and west, excepting Penn, Washington and Franklin, were named after trees; and those subsequently laid out, after the townships of the county. They are at right angles with one another. Some of them, however, run at an oblique angle, the most prominent being Bingham street, Perkiomen, Centre and Schuylkill avenues. The total number of miles of projected streets is 135; of which 82 miles are open for public use.

The first grading of the streets was made in 1832. A topographical survey was made from 1864 to 1868. The plans, in eleven sections, are on file in the Quarter Sessions' office of Berks county. In 1863, the system of numbering the houses along the streets was adopted by councils, allowing 100 for each square from Front street eastward, and also for each square north and south of Penn street. This was effected by Jacob Knabb while postmaster, to facilitate and dispatch the delivery of letters, having had numerous petitions signed by the citizens recommending it.

After considering for a long while the subject of permanent street improvements, councils eventually, in 1882, purchased a steam road-roller, weighing fifteen tons, and began a gradual improvement of the streets in the interior sections of Reading by macadamizing the surface, and they kept at it year after year until 1897, spending annually about \$25,000. This not proving satisfactory, they then determined to lay sheet asphaltum, and during that year expended over \$120,000

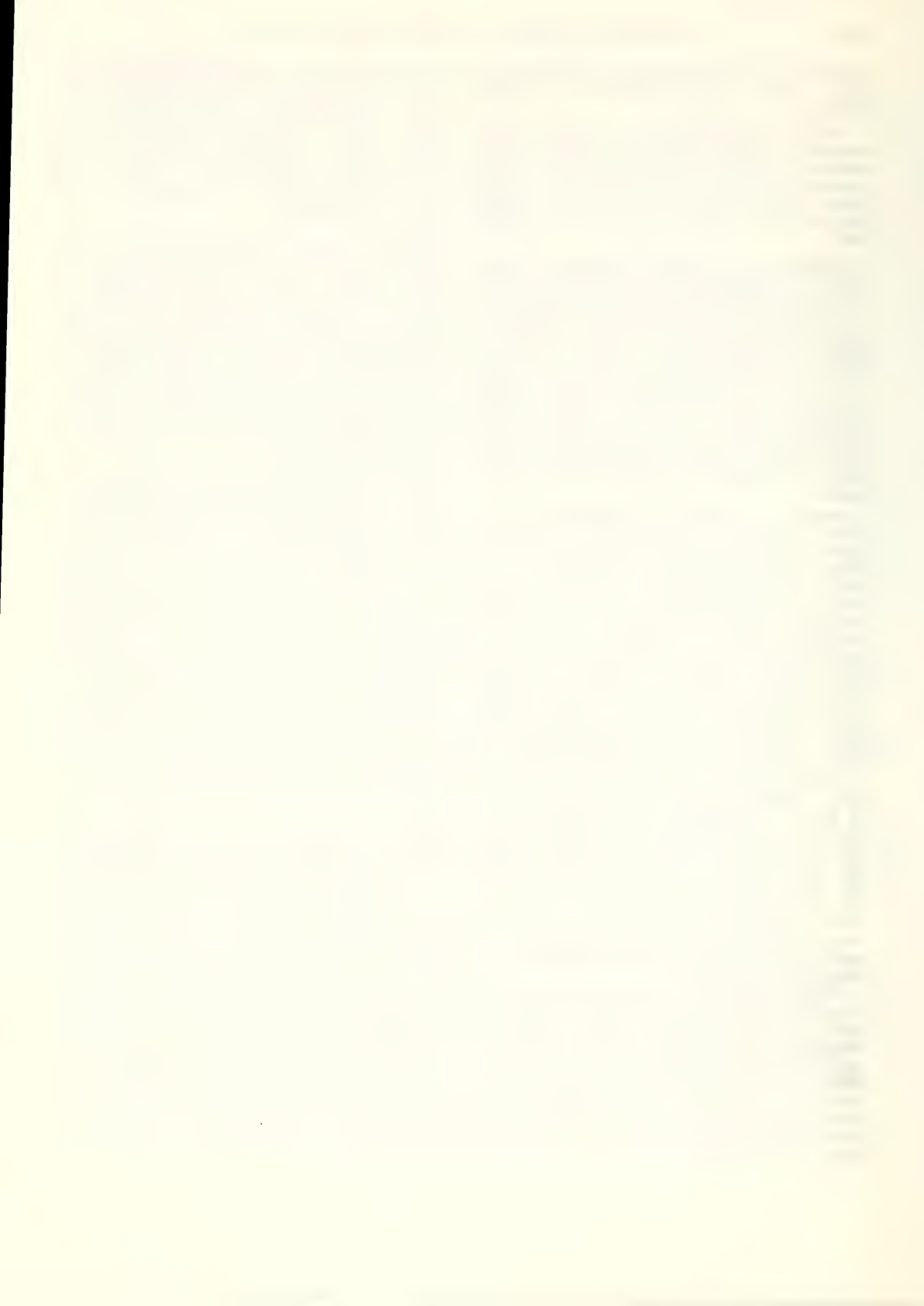
on Penn street and Perkiomen avenue from Front street to Thirteenth, and on south Fifth street from Penn to Pine. During the next five years, other streets were paved with asphaltum and vitrified brick, covering a total length of ten miles, and costing altogether \$350,000. In 1908 there were fifty-two miles of macadam street, six miles of asphaltum, fourteen miles of vitrified brick, and six miles of rubble stone.

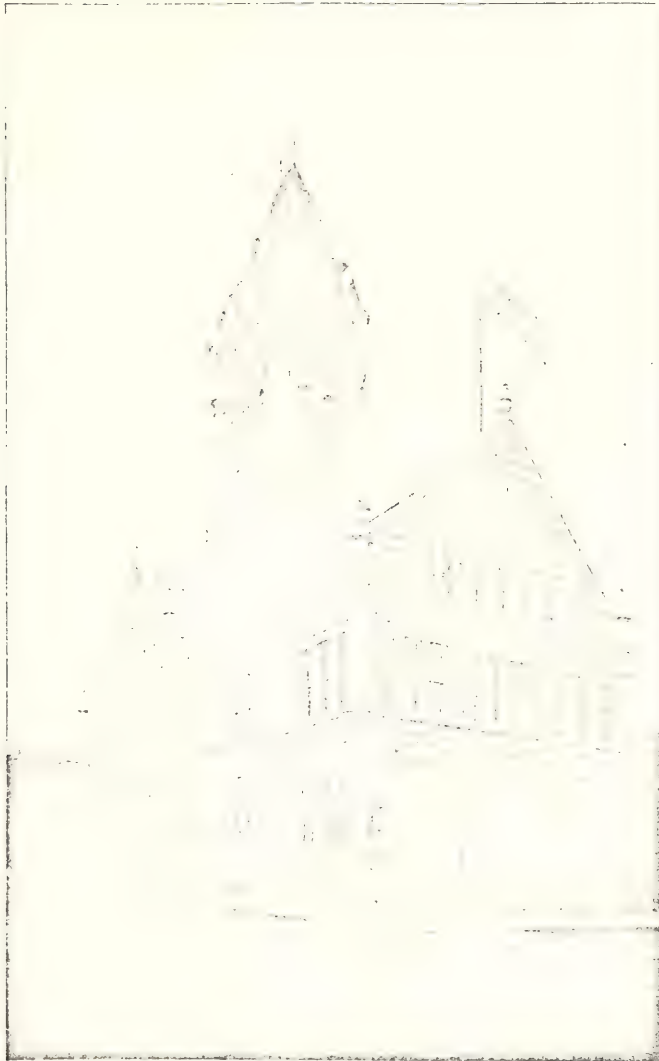
SEWERS.—In 1893, the West system of house sewers was adopted by councils. The city was divided into eight districts, and the first four were constructed at the expense of the abutting property holders, amounting to \$231,000, of which the city paid for the mains, about \$50,000. The pumping station was erected at the foot of Sixth street at a cost of \$60,000; and the disposal plant one and one-half miles below Reading along the west bank of the river at a cost of \$79,600, which was paid by the city without increasing the tax rate. The sewage is purified to 99 per cent. The cost of the three districts was \$250,000.

The first storm-water sewer was constructed gradually in small sections from the foot of Court street to Buttonwood, to Eighth, to Walnut, and to Eleventh, the beginning having been made forty years ago. The Bassett system was adopted by councils in 1889, comprising twenty districts. In 1897, the North Reading sewer was made out of concrete, in oval shape, starting at Eleventh and Douglass, and ending at the river near the Carpenter Steel Works, a distance of two miles. The dimension at the east end begins at five feet, and ends at the west end at fourteen feet. The depth below the surface varies from ten to twenty-five feet. It is now the largest and longest concrete sewer in America. The total cost was over \$200,000, paid mostly by a loan granted by a vote of the electors. In 1908, there were one hundred and two miles of house sewers; and fourteen miles of storm-water sewers, with eleven additional miles projected.

SUBWAY.—The subject of a "crossing" over the P. & R. railroad at Spring street was agitated unsuccessfully for many years until 1904, when the city authorities and the railroad company reached an understanding and the necessary steps were instituted for its construction. The work was given to Hawman Brothers, contractors of Reading, and they started Nov. 18, 1907, with an allowance of three hundred working days for its completion. It was a difficult undertaking on account of the very heavy traffic on the railroad constantly passing and repassing that point, but they succeeded in finishing the bridge within the limited time.

The bridge is constructed of cement work and when completed will cost about \$150,000. A large bronze tablet, five feet high, is set in the face of the arches on both sides, in the form of a keystone. It was opened to travel in April, 1909, and the great convenience of passing at all times from the





POST OFFICE AT READING

northeastern section of the city to the northwest, or in an opposite direction, without detention, was immediately appreciated. It is one of the most important improvements to the city in recent years.

FERRIES AND BRIDGES.—The ford was used in crossing the Schuylkill for many years; then a ferry was introduced to facilitate passage to and fro. In 1795, the first steps were taken to establish a bridge at this point; and repeated and persistent efforts were made by legislation, lottery schemes, and county appropriations for twenty years before this great improvement was accomplished. A roofed wooden structure became passable in 1815; and it was finally completed in 1818. The cost was \$50,000. It took the name of "Harrisburg Bridge" from the public road to Harrisburg. There was also a ferry at the foot of Bingham street. The first privilege was granted by the Penns to a man named Levan, and it was continued until a roofed wooden bridge was erected by the county in 1831, at a cost of \$10,000. It took the name of "Lancaster Bridge," being on the road to Lancaster.

Toll was charged at both bridges until 1883, when they were declared free. The subject of free bridges had been agitated as early as 1821; and in 1848 a special effort was made in this behalf, but without success, because the county commissioners alleged that the expenses exceeded the income by nearly \$30,000. In 1882, the city councils took the matter in hand, and by application to court, the purpose was at last accomplished March 28, 1883.

Both bridges were swept away by the great freshet of 1850, and immediately rebuilt. In 1876, the latter was destroyed by fire, and an iron structure was erected in its stead, which was the first large iron bridge in the county. And in 1884, a superior iron bridge was erected in place of the former at a cost of \$100,000.

The first bridge across the Schuylkill in this vicinity was "Kissinger's." It was on the road to Sunbury through Bern township. An Act was passed in 1810, authorizing Ulrich Kissinger to erect and maintain a toll bridge at that point where this road crossed the river, and he then put up a chain bridge in two spans. A covered wooden bridge was substituted in 1830. This was also swept away by the freshet of 1850, and rebuilt. It was known for many years as "Bushong's," and last as "Ahrens'." The Schuylkill avenue bridge near by was erected by the county commissioners in 1893 to take its place.

The Lebanon Valley railroad bridge was erected in 1857, and it was then regarded as one of the finest structures in the State. It was destroyed by fire by the rioters in July, 1877, and rebuilt by the company. The Wilmington & Northern railroad bridge was erected in 1874; the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley in 1881; and the Reading & Southwestern in 1891. Altogether ten fine bridges span the river within a distance of three miles.

SCHUYLKILL RIVER.—The river Schuylkill is a prominent feature of Reading, and has always contributed many advantages to the place. In respect to carrying away the surface drainage from all the streets, its value has been incalculable. Its improvement for navigation was a subject for the inhabitants as early as 1807, when a society was formed for this purpose. It was forded until about the time when the borough was erected, then the ferries were introduced, and these were carried on until the two bridges were built.

Freshets.—The freshets of this water-course occupy a noteworthy place in local history for over one hundred years. The most important of them occurred in 1757, 1786, 1822, 1839, 1841, 1850, 1862 and 1869. The one which caused the most damage was in 1850, when the water rose twenty-five feet above its ordinary level, nearly six feet higher than the great freshet of 1786.

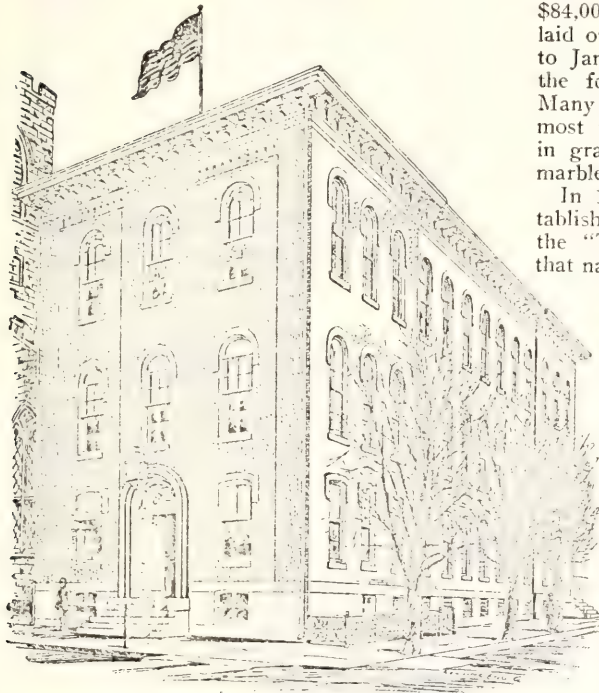
FIRE COMPANY BUILDINGS.—For many years, the fire companies owned the buildings in which they kept their apparatus, but when the city began to appropriate liberal sums annually for maintaining them, it became the owner of all, excepting that of the Liberty Fire Company. The buildings number thirteen. They are all substantial structures, finely furnished.

PUBLIC PARKS.—Penn Common was reserved by the Penns for the dwellers of the town when the plan was laid out. But it was not improved for park purposes until 1878; then a strip along Perkiomen avenue was ornamented by private subscription. In 1884, legal proceedings were instituted by councils to recover possession of the entire tract (fifty acres) from the county commissioners, Wayne Hayman, Esq., city solicitor, Richmond L. Jones, Esq., and George F. Baer, Esq., appearing as counsel for the city. The court refused to award a writ of *mandamus* to compel them to execute a deed to the city for the land, but the Supreme court ordered it to be done, and the transfer was made in 1886. Then councils established a park commission, and annual appropriations have been made since that time for its improvement. Until 1909 about \$250,000 was expended. Besides Penn Common, the city owns Mineral Spring park, sixty-four acres, which has also been beautified by annual appropriations, exceeding \$15,000; Egelman park, thirty acres; Hessian Camp, thirty-two acres; and other tracts, twenty-two acres—altogether nearly two hundred acres, highly appreciated by the people.

POST-OFFICE.—The post-office was established at Reading in 1793. Since then there have been eighteen postmasters. The letters were called for until 1835, when they began to be delivered by private enterprise at a cent, and subsequently two cents, a letter. This practice continued until the free delivery system was introduced in 1864. Mail

boxes were put up in 1864 for dropping letters to be collected by carriers, and boxes and carriers were increased as demands required. The money order system was introduced in 1861; postal cards in 1873; two-cent postage in 1883; and the special delivery of letters in 1885. In February, 1909, there were 240 boxes and 43 carriers; 8 sub-carriers and 2 rural carriers. The office employed 25 clerks, and 3 sub-clerks. The total business for 1908 was \$180,709. On Oct. 1, 1891, seven stations were established in different sections of Reading for the sale of stamps, registering letters and issuing money orders.

The post-office was located at No. 16 South



CITY HALL

Fifth street from 1793 to 1801; No. 146 North Fifth street, 1801 to 1829; No. 504 Penn Square, 1829 to 1841; No. 423 Penn Square, 1841 to 1845; No. 508 Penn Square, 1845 to 1849; No. 533 Penn Square, 1849 to 1852; "State-house" (Fifth and Penn), 1852 to 1866; Sixth and Court streets, 1866 to 1889; Federal building, Fifth and Washington streets, since 1889. In 1887 the United States government commenced the erection of a fine, large building for a permanent post-office. The department took possession Sept. 16, 1889. The total cost was \$180,000. In 1908, Congress appropriated \$60,000 for an addition to the building.

CITY HALL.—There was no separate building for

town officials until 1870. A city hall (three-story brick building) was then erected at Fifth and Franklin streets to supply at one place a "lock-up," city offices, and council chambers, costing \$26,000. Previously the councils had met in the Court-House.

CEMETERIES.—From the beginning of Reading until 1846, interments were made in burying-grounds which adjoined the several churches; then a cemetery was established by Charles Evans. He was authorized by law to organize a company for its perpetual management, and when this was done he transferred to the "Charles Evans Cemetery Company" a tract of twenty-five acres in the northern section of the city, with the buildings thereon erected, representing an expenditure of \$84,000. The present area embraces 127 acres, laid out in lots, and those sold 6,000; and burials to Jan. 1, 1909, 28,230. A fine bronze statue of the founder stands inside, facing the entrance. Many costly monuments have been erected, the most prominent being the "Soldiers' Monument" in granite, and "Christ on the Cross" in Italian marble.

In 1849, two cemeteries were laid out and established on the northern slope of Mt. Neversink, the "Trinity Lutheran" by the congregation of that name, and the "Roman Catholic" by St. Peter's congregation. And in 1851, the "Aulenbach" was laid out along the southeast border of Reading. When these cemeteries were established, burials in them were encouraged, and the remains of numerous persons in the different burying grounds were transferred to them.

TURNPIKES.—Turnpikes were projected along the prominent highways which extended to the north, to the southeast and to the west of Reading to enable business men, farmers and travelers to carry on intercourse more quickly with near and distant places. In 1805, the Centre Turnpike Company was incorporated to maintain a turnpike on the road to the north, leading to Sunbury, and before 1812 it was completed. Tolls were collected until 1885, when it was abandoned and the charter forfeited. In 1810, another was incorporated for a turnpike southeast to Perkiomen Mills and Philadelphia; which was completed in 1814. It was conducted until 1902 when it was declared free, the county having paid damages for appropriating it. And in 1805, a third was incorporated for a turnpike west to Harrisburg; which was finished in 1817, and has been conducted until now.* Their connection with and value to Reading are not fully appreciated at this time, but for fifty years, from 1810 to 1860, they contributed a great deal toward its prosperity. To the stage business they were indispensable.

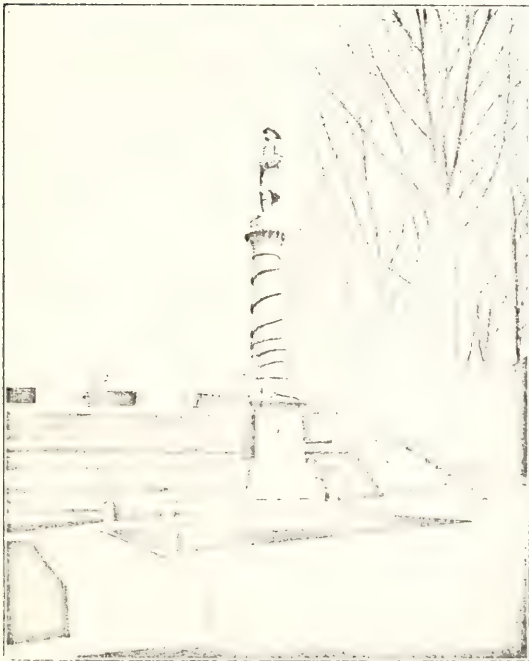
* Part made free from Reading to Wernersville



MCKINLEY MONUMENT IN PENN COMMON



MONUMENT TO FIRST DEFENDERS IN PENN COMMON



FIREMEN'S MONUMENT IN PENN COMMON



G. A. R. MONUMENT IN CHARLES EVANS CEMETERY



STAGE-COACHES.—The stage-coach was introduced as the first public conveyance at Reading in 1789 by Martin Hausman. It made weekly trips to and from Philadelphia, distance fifty-one miles; fare \$2; letters 3d. The round trip was made in two days. William Coleman became the owner of the line in 1791, and from that time for seventy years the Coleman family was prominently identified with the stage enterprise at Reading



STAGE-COACH

and in eastern Pennsylvania. This business was active for a long time, especially from 1810 to 1858; but it was discontinued as the railroads were extended in different directions from Reading. Six stage lines still carry passengers, merchandise and mail as follows: northwest to Krick's Mill, and Bernville; south to Angelica and Terre Hill, and also to Plowville, Alleghenyville, and Hummel's Store; east to Boyertown, to Pleasantville, and to Friedensburg.

CANALS.—The canal, as a means of transportation to and from Reading, was started in 1811. It was constructed along the Tulpehocken creek to its source, and thence along the Swatara creek to the Susquehanna river, being finished in 1828. It was known as the Union canal. It was very prosperous for a time, and many boats ran to and fro, carrying lumber, merchandise and passengers, but railroad competition caused it to be abandoned. The Schuylkill canal was constructed along the Schuylkill river from Pottsville to Philadelphia, especially for transporting coal. It was begun in 1817 and completed in 1822; and it was successfully carried on for over fifty years. It is now controlled by the P. & R. R. Company but little used.

STEAM RAILROADS.—Railroads were extended in directions to correspond with the public roads; southeast to Philadelphia, 58 miles, in 1838; northwest to Pottsville, 35 miles, in 1842; west to Harrisburg, 54 miles, in 1858; northeast to Allentown, 35 miles, in 1859; southwest to Lancaster, 42 miles, and to Columbia, 46 miles, in 1864; south to Wilmington, 72 miles, in 1874; and north to Slatington, 44 miles, in 1874. The "West-Reading" was constructed in 1863, from the "Lebanon Valley" via Third street to and along Canal street, to accommodate the numerous enterprises in the western section of the city. It was operated by the company for ten years; then transferred to the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company.

The P. & R. R. Co. operate all the lines concentrating at Reading, excepting the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad. The passenger station was located at Seventh and Chestnut streets

from 1838 to 1874, when it was removed to the "Junction" where the Lebanon Valley railroad and East Penn railroad connect with the P. & R. railroad. The volume of business is enormous. In 1884, a station was established also at Franklin street.

The Schuylkill Valley railroad was extended along the Schuylkill river from Philadelphia to Reading in 1881, and to Pottsville in 1885. It is under the control of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

STREET RAILWAYS.—There was no street railway in Philadelphia until 1857, but during that year the first line was put down, and cars began to run in January, 1858.

The first move in this behalf at Reading was in 1865, when an Act was passed incorporating the "Reading Passenger Railway Company," to construct and operate street railways on Penn street, from Front to the Mineral Spring; on Fifth and Centre avenue, and also on Sixth from Canal street northward to Hiester's Lane, beyond the cemetery; and ninety-six of the most prominent business men and capitalists subscribed for stock. The construction was to be begun within one year and to be ended in five years, and the fare was to be five cents; but nothing was done. Several years afterward, an effort was made to establish an omnibus line, which was to run from the foot of Fifth street to the cemetery, but this also failed, after being operated for a while.

In 1873, another Act was passed, incorporating the Penn Street Passenger Railway Company, to construct and operate the Penn street line from Front street to Nineteenth. The construction was commenced early in 1874, working eastward and westward from Sixth street, and by August the road was open for travel with a single track. The cars were drawn by one horse, but soon afterward by two horses.

In one year, the road was sold by the sheriff and reorganized under the name of the Central Passenger Railway Company of Reading; but in 1878, this was also sold out by the sheriff, and for a time the road was not operated.

In April, 1880, another reorganization was effected under the name of the Perkiomen Avenue line. New cars were placed on the road, and its operation proved so successful that extensions were made along Ninth and Tenth streets, and then to the Mineral Spring, where a barn was erected for the cars and horses.

After all these lines had been laid, a consolidation of the two companies was effected in 1889 under the name of the Reading City Passenger Railway Company. In 1890, the Penn street line was extended along Perkiomen avenue to Nineteenth street from Thirteenth; and in 1891, a line was laid along Bingham and Eighth streets.

At the same time that the Act was passed in 1873 for the Penn street line, another Act was passed for the Sixth street line, and the construc-

tion of it was then also started. Extensions were made as follows: In 1885, to the cemetery; in 1886, to East Reading, via Laurel and Cotton streets, and also along Third, Fourth, Washington and Walnut streets; and in 1887, along Fifth street and Centre avenue, and along North Eleventh street.

In 1893, electricity was substituted for horses and a marked improvement in the service was immediately appreciated by the public, and the travel was increased very much.

The United Traction Company was organized in 1895 for the purpose of leasing and operating all the lines.

The East Reading line from Ninth street to the Black Bear Inn and to Stony Creek was constructed in 1890, the Reading Electric Light and Power Company supplying the electric power to propel the cars. This line was the first at Reading to use electricity for street car service.

The Reading and Southwestern Railway Company was organized in 1890 to operate a street railway from Third and Penn streets to Mohnsville by way of Shillington, a distance of five miles, and this was constructed in 1891 with an electric power plant at the foot of Chestnut street to propel its cars. In 1894 a branch was extended to Eleventh and Penn streets, by way of Franklin street, and to Nineteenth street by way of Eleventh, Spruce and Haak streets, for the purpose of making connection with the Mt. Penn Gravity Railroad. In 1894, a steam railroad was constructed from the terminus at Mohnsville to Adamstown. In 1901 the Mohnsville line and its connections were leased to the United Traction Company, and since then have been operated by this company.

In 1894, a street railway line was extended from Reading west to Womelsdorf, a distance of fifteen miles, and since then has been operated by the United Traction Company.

In 1902, a line was extended to Temple, five miles to the north, by the Reading and Temple Company, and another to Boyertown, eighteen miles to the east by way of Jacksonwald, Friedensburg and Shanesville, by the Oley Valley Railway Company, from a point near the Stony Creek terminus of the East Reading line, both also operated by the United Traction Company. And in 1904, the Temple line was extended to Kutztown, thereby opening connection with the Allentown and Kutztown line of street railway, which had been constructed through Maxatawny township to Kutztown in 1898.

Shortly before the line was laid along North Ninth street in 1886, Abraham F. Reeser and Lewis Kremp projected a line of herdie coaches to run the entire length of Ninth street and these coaches were run for a while, but not proving successful the enterprise was discontinued.

MOUNTAIN RAILROADS.—In 1889, the Mt. Penn Gravity Railroad Company was organized, and in 1890 it constructed a railroad from the east end

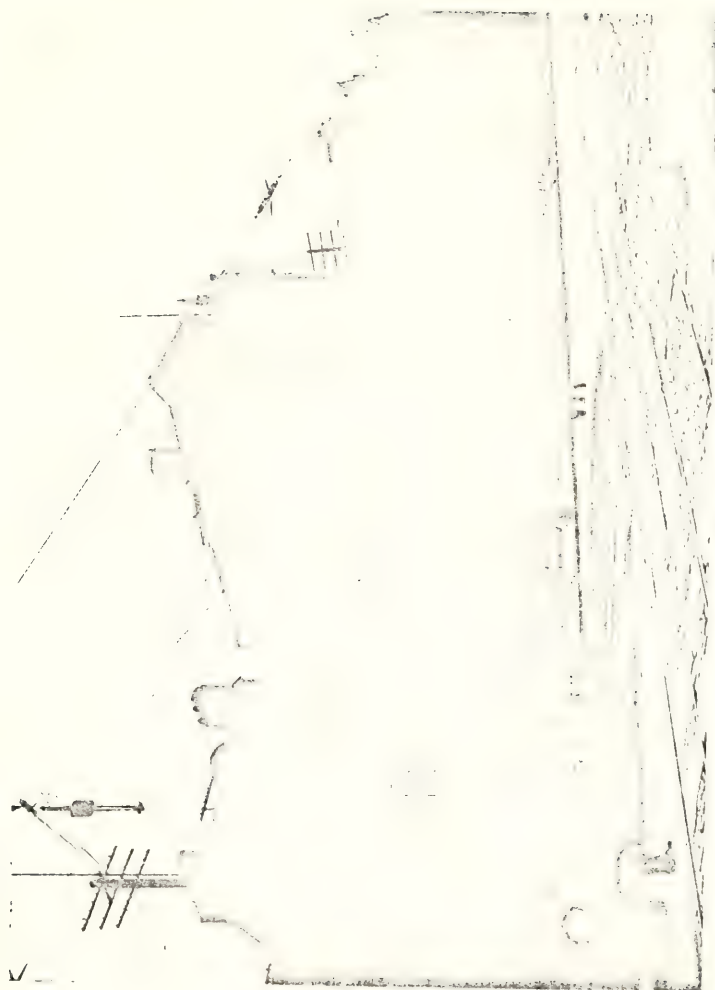
of the street car lines to the top of Mt. Penn and thence by a circuitous route to the point of beginning, altogether eight miles long. The cars are drawn to the top one and a half miles by a steam engine, and also by electric power, but they descend by gravity six and two-thirds miles. In April, 1898, an electrical equipment was supplied to propel the cars by trolley. A stone tower fifty feet high is at the top. Total elevation, twelve hundred feet above the sea, and one thousand feet above Reading. The view from this tower embraces an area of territory thirty miles square. Prominent points can be seen in the six adjoining counties, Montgomery, Chester, Lancaster, Lebanon, Schuylkill and Lehigh. A large pavilion for dancing is connected with the tower; and to the north, near by, there is another for playing ten-pins, shuffle-boards, and billiards. Investment, \$150,000.

The "Summit House," a three-story stone building, was erected in 1890, near the tower, by Henry and William Schwartz. The railroad in descending passes four other resorts: "Kuechler's," "Steigerwald's," "Spuhler's," and "Mineral Spring."

The Neversink Mountain Railroad Company was organized in 1889, and in 1890 the company laid a track eight miles long from Ninth and Penn streets around and across the mountain to Klapperthal. It has an investment of \$250,000. Superior views from different points overlook Reading and the surrounding country for many miles. A power-house was erected at the Big Dam at the same time to propel the company's cars with electricity, but it was leased to the Metropolitan Electric Company, which now provides the necessary power for the cars. A fine pavilion for dancing was erected by the company along the road, opposite the "Highland House."

TELEGRAPH.—Reading was reached by telegraph in 1847 along the Philadelphia & Reading railroad, thereby opening communication with Philadelphia to the south and Pottsville to the north, and intervening points. As the other railroads were established, additional telegraph lines were extended in the same directions from Reading. In 1879, this concentrated system was connected with the Western Union lines, thereby opening direct communication with all parts of the United States. The office at Reading has come to do an enormous business, the commercial messages alone (not including the railway business and the extensive newspaper service) averaging one thousand, eight hundred every day. It is open all the year.

There are in use in Reading by this company sixty wires with a total length of two hundred miles; also the call bell system for messenger and cab service and to deliver letters and packages; and a storage battery and motor generator have been substituted in the place of the gravity battery. This company enjoys the distinction of being the oldest in continuous service in the United States.



SOUTH SIDE OF PENN SQUARE, LOOKING WEST FROM SIXTH STREET

To accommodate the increasing business, a "duplex" of the largest kind was introduced in 1897 on the direct wire between Reading and New York, by which two messages can be sent over the same wire at the same time in opposite directions. Another is in daily use between Reading and Philadelphia for the exclusive accommodation of the railroad business.

The company operates at this office one hundred self-winding synchronizing clocks, distributed in different parts of Reading, and regulated hourly by observatory time from Washington, D. C. These clocks were first introduced here in 1891.

In 1880, the Lehigh Telegraph Company was organized and formed connection with Reading. The line passed through several hands. Now it is known as the Postal Telegraph Cable Company. It has at Reading twenty miles of wire, three operators, six messengers, transmits and receives 100,000 messages annually, and has connection with 29,756 places.

TELEPHONE.—The first telephone company in Pennsylvania was organized at Philadelphia in 1878, and in 1879 Henry W. Spang introduced the instrument at Reading. Obtaining from councils the right to maintain overhead wires, he established an exchange in the Eagle building, Sixth and Penn streets, in October, 1879. He began with ten instruments and after carrying on the business until January, 1881, he sold it to the East Pennsylvania Telephone Company. By that time he had introduced one hundred and twenty-four instruments at Reading, seventy-four at Pottsville, and twenty-three at Lebanon.

In December, 1882, the Pennsylvania Telephone Company became the owner. By 1895, the wires overhead had become so numerous that the company prepared to put them underground where most numerous in the central part of the city, and, anticipating this undertaking, purchased a property at Nos. 31-33 North Fifth street, altered it to meet the demands of the business and equipped it with the most improved electrical appliances.

During 1895, 1896 and 1897 the first conduits were laid along Fifth, Court, Penn and Cherry streets, together measuring seventy thousand feet and containing one thousand miles of copper wire (there being eight cables, each comprising two hundred and two wires). Reading was the third city in Pennsylvania where wires were laid underground, Pittsburg being the first, and Philadelphia the second. The company took possession of its new quarters in February, 1896.

In 1879, the service was conducted on a single iron wire, and the longest distance over which a conversation could be carried on successfully was from thirty to fifty miles, but the introduction of electricity for propelling street cars and for public lighting rendered the telephone service on the single wire system practically useless, and the company was obliged, at great expense, to substitute the two-wire system, which necessitated a reconstruction

of the whole plant and the use of hard-drawn copper wire and of imported superior cedar poles.

The Reading Exchange in February, 1908, comprised 3,332 subscribers at Reading, and 444 in the surrounding districts of Berks county. It is open day and night throughout the year; employs 45 operators and answers from 20,000 to 25,000 calls daily; total employes in the county, 115. The entire territory of the company embraces 38 counties (36 in Pennsylvania and 2 in New Jersey), and about 1,000 persons are constantly employed. The company has altogether nearly 36,000 subscribers, with communication in all the States reached by the long distance telephone, from the lakes to the gulf of Mexico, and from Maine to Colorado.

The Consolidated Telephone Company of Pennsylvania established an exchange at Reading in 1902, and since then has introduced all the latest improvements.

[See Chapter II, INDUSTRY OF COUNTY, under head of Telegraph and Telephone lines.]

GAS LIGHT.—The inhabitants of Reading used tallow candles and oil for producing light during the first and second periods of its history. In 1848 the Reading Gas Company was formed by a number of enterprising citizens for introducing gas, and it supplied many dwellings, stores, shops, the Court-House and streets and the City Hall until 1885, when the plant was leased to the Consumers Gas Company. The works are situated at the foot of Fifth street. In 1861 a telescope gasometer was erected at the works with a capacity of 75,000 feet; in 1873, another on Elm street, near Fourth, with a capacity of 360,000 feet; and in 1901 a third, at the foot of Fifth street, with a capacity of 500,000 feet. The total capacity of the company is now over two million feet. The total length of main pipe in use covers seventy-eight miles, and all the consumers number fifteen thousand. David Fox was the superintendent from 1857 to 1887, and John H. Keppelman from 1887 to the present time.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER.—In 1883, the Reading Electric Light and Power Company was formed to supply electric light and power to the local government and to private consumers, and then it established a plant at Eighth and Cherry streets, where it remained for some years. The company afterward erected a superior power-house on South Seventh street, near Chestnut, and in 1894 leased the plant to the Metropolitan Electric Company, which had been organized shortly before. The latter company largely increased the plant and equipment. It has in use twenty engines whose combined horse-power is 10,000. It supplies the city with 800 arc lights and 300 incandescents; and private consumers with 950 arc, and 20,000 incandescents.

A storage system was established on Chestnut street, east of Seventh, in 1903, with capacity of 740 amperes.



A new power plant is being erected at the outlet of the Wyomissing creek opposite Reading which will be completed by the end of 1909, and the total cost of the improvement to the traction and lighting systems is estimated at \$2,000,000.

STEAM HEAT.—In 1887, Isaac McHose, William McIlvain, Levi Quier, John R. Miller, James Nolan and others, organized the Reading Steam Heat and Power Company for the purpose of supplying public and private buildings in Reading with steam heat, and a large plant was established on Elm street, near Reed, comprising ten boilers with a capacity of 1,800 horse-power. Mains were put down along Fifth, Sixth, Elm, Walnut, Washington and Penn streets, with total length exceeding ten thousand feet, and three hundred patrons were secured. The plant has been improved and the patrons have been increased under the management of Jerome L. Boyer since 1905. John R. Miller has been the president of the company since its incorporation, and Lewis Crafer the secretary and treasurer.

HALLS.—Before 1846, there were no public halls at Reading for public meetings or amusements. A large room on the second floor of the State-House at Fifth and Penn streets was used for these purposes from 1793 to 1840 and then the large auditorium in the Court-House began to be used.

In 1846 the Odd Fellows (a beneficial society of Reading) erected a four-story brick building on the southwest corner of Fifth and Franklin streets, to provide a meeting place for their lodges, on the third and fourth floors, and also a large hall for amusement purposes, on the second floor. It was a popular place for receptions, assemblies, balls, and public meetings for fifty years. In 1868 it became the property of the Reading Library Company.

During the succeeding twenty-five years, several other halls were erected, notably the "Keystone," at Sixth and Court, the "Aulenbach," on Penn above Sixth, and "Brenciser's," at Eighth and Penn.

Joseph Mishler erected the first modern hall at Reading in 1872. It was at No. 533 Penn Square and many high class entertainments were given there until 1886. It was called the "Academy of Music," and had a seating capacity of 1,800.

There are numerous halls at Reading for social meetings of all kinds, but only those for amusement and balls can be mentioned.

For amusement: Grand Opera-House, 1873; Academy of Music, 1886 (North Sixth street); Y. M. C. A. Hall, 1895; Masonic Hall, 1897; Bijou Theatre, 1894.

For balls: Maennerchor Hall, 1874; Deppen's Hall, 1881; Rajah Temple, 1892; Auditorium, 1895.

LOCATION OF CITY.—The lines enclosing the plan of Reading form an irregular figure, about three miles long and two and one-half miles wide; and the tract contains about four thousand acres. The eastern boundary line is along the base of Mount Penn, and the western along the west bank of the Schuylkill, the latter being nearly five miles long.

The greater part of the area has a gentle declination westward from Mount Penn to the river and affords superior drainage. The territory to the northward and southward comprises the Schuylkill Valley and that to the westward the Lebanon Valley.

ELEVATIONS ABOVE SEA LEVEL

Mount Penn.....	1,119 feet
Mount Neversink.....	800 feet
Egelman Reservoir.....	672 feet
Antietam Lake.....	510 feet
Hampden Reservoir.....	445 feet
Charles Evans Cemetery.....	373 feet
Penn Street Reservoir.....	345 feet
Fifth and Penn Streets.....	239 feet
Front and Penn Streets.....	180 feet

RELIGION AND EDUCATION

CHURCHES

Three religious congregations were organized at Reading in 1751, Friends, Lutherans and Reformed, and they then caused churches to be erected. The last two still maintain their churches in the same locality with a large membership. The Roman Catholics began in 1755, and the Protestant Episcopalians in 1763. These and other congregations together contributed an influence in behalf of the moral and social welfare of the community that cannot be fully measured. The major part of the people of Reading, connected with the denominations, have always been Lutherans and Reformed, these two having the largest proportion of congregations, and the Reformed denomination having the greatest number of members.

There are twenty-three different religious denominations at Reading, which have altogether seventy-six churches. In the statement which follows, they are arranged in the order of priority, and the year mentioned after each congregation signifies the time when it was organized, or when the church was improved. Sunday-schools are conducted with the several congregations.

STATEMENT OF CHURCHES AT READING

Lutheran

Name	Founded	Pastor	Members
Trinity	1751-1791	Edward T. Horn	1,625
Chapel	1873-1891		
St. Matthew's	1844-1890	G. W. Nicely	425
St. James	1850-1892	M. L. Zweigig	680
St. John's	1860-1896	T. J. Kuendig	1,520
St. Chapel	1848-1874	Philip Kirchner (Junior Pastor)	
St. Luke's	1808-1886	F. K. Hantzinger	1,000
Grace	1877-1888	W. H. Myers	1,200
Peace	1885	J. T. Snyder	50
Hope	1885-1901	H. W. Warmkessel	676
St. Mark's	1890-1900	E. S. Brownmiller	490
St. Paul's	1900	M. H. Stettler	295
St. Peter's	1908	H. C. Shindie	50
			8,501

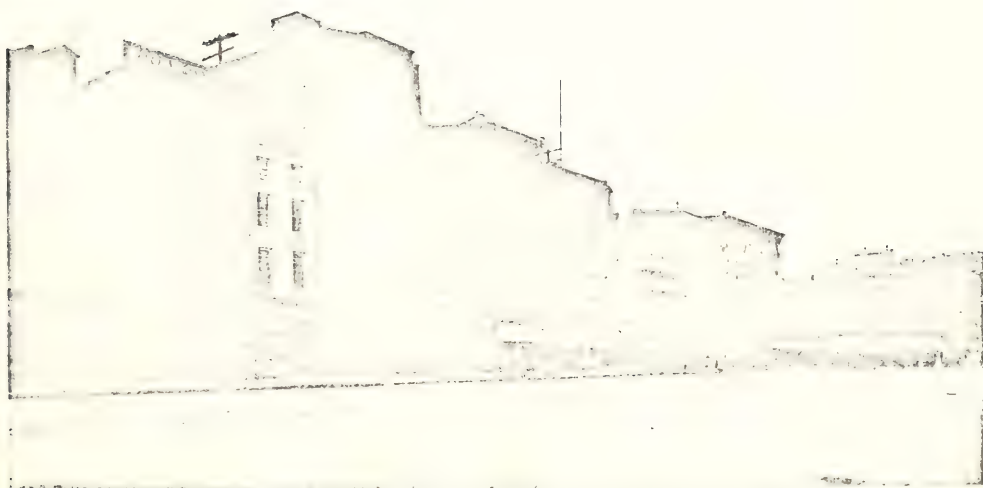
Reformed

Name	Founded	Pastor	Members
First	1753-1763-1832	J. F. Moyer	1,337
Second	1848-1853-1898	S. R. Bridenbaugh	690
St. John's	1865-1871-1876	T. H. Leimbach	680
St. Paul's	1872-1905	B. Bausman	900
Zion's	1881-1883	C. H. Graam	600
St. Stephen's	1883-1899	T. W. Diekert	1,152
Calvary	1889	A. V. Casselman	556
North Reading	1890	Ivan M. Beaver	112
St. Thomas	1891	Lee M. Erdman	451
St. Andrew's	1891-1904	H. H. Runk	880
St. Mark's	1891-1901	C. E. Schaeffer	1,230
Faith	1891	W. E. Hart	110
			9,017





NORTH SIDE OF PENN SQUARE, LOOKING WEST FROM FIFTH STREET



NORTH SIDE OF PENN SQUARE, LOOKING EAST FROM FIFTH STREET

Friends

1751-1765-1867

Protestant Episcopal

Name	Founded	Pastor
Christ	1760-1825-1873	William P. Orrick
Parish Building	1884	Franklin J. Clark
St. Barnabas	1860-1880	Franklin J. Clark
St. Luke's Chapel	1804	William B. Burk
St. Mary's Chapel	1905	Harvey P. Walter

Members
427
409
95
77
1,008

Roman Catholic

Name	Founded	Pastor
St. Peter's	1755-1791	Thomas S. McCarty
	1845-1904	
St. Paul's	1860	George Bornemann
St. Joseph's	1887	James Flanagan
St. Mary's	1888	A. Maluscki
Italian	1904	A. Virelli
Slavonic	1907	

Members
1,500
3,500
1,200
3,000
300
500
10,000

Presbyterian

Name	Founded	Pastor
First	1812-1823-1847	R. M. Blackburn
Washington St. (Colored)	1823	William R. Templeter
Olivet	1889-1892	R. H. Kirk

Members
469
77
298
835

Methodist Episcopal

Name	Founded	Pastor
Fourth Street	1822-1827	H. E. Walley
(People's)	1868-1900	
St. Peter's	1848-1883	W. A. Ferguson
Covenant	1820	W. H. Smith
Memorial	1890	J. Richards Boyle
Windsor Street	1904	H. T. Isenberger
Grace	1909	Vacant

Members
154
463
405
553
236

Baptist

Name	Founded	Pastor
First	1820-1826-1845-1893	James A. Maxwell
Berean	1869-1879	H. J. Roberts
Zion	1905	W. H. Dabbs
Memorial	1908	Henry P. Hoskins
Shiloh (Colored)		Moses Braxton

Members
790
235
46
65

Universalist

Name	Founded	Pastor
Church of Our Father	1831-1880	Hendrick Vossemmer

Members
250

Evangelical

Name	Founded	Pastor
Salem	1846-1877	A. N. Metzger
Immanuel	1962-1884	W. F. Kline
Ebenezer	1870-1885	J. L. Yotter
St. Matthew's	1883	H. E. Harner
Christ	1901	W. L. Bollman

Members
221
275
359
100
190
1,046

United Evangelical

Name	Founded	Pastor
First	1894	A. W. Brownmiller
Grace	1894	F. S. Borkey
Trinity	1898	A. G. Elyer
St. Paul's	1900	George W. Hansen
Bethany	1908	J. S. Harper

Members
858
398
155
590
125
2,036

United Brethren

Name	Founded	Pastor
Zion's	1847-1898	G. D. Batdorf
Otterbein	1836-1870	C. J. Brane
Salem	1886	W. B. Fridinger
Memorial	1894	H. Jones

Members
310
194
407
196
1,107

Hebrew

Name	Founded	Pastor
Oheb Sholem	1864-1885	Julius Frank
Shomro Habrith	1888	E. Mayer Kaplan

Members
240

German Baptist Brethren

Name	Founded	Pastor
	1895	David W. Weaver

Members
70

Miscellaneous

Name	Founded	Pastor
Bethel African M. E.	1837-1839	J. K. Reed
Friendship Reformed	1873	J. Addison Kutz
Disciples of Christ	1897	Horace G. Weaver
Mennonite Brethren	1884	C. H. Brunner
Gospel Tabernacle	1901	I. H. Von Neida
People's Mission		H. M. Lenzel
Holiness Christians		Adam Sommers
Christian Missionary Alliance	1904	H. Miller Herr
Church of God		Isaac Becker
Seventh Day Adventist		J. H. Krumm

Members
76
83
115

Church Attendance at Reading, 1905.—At a meeting of the executive committee of the Thirteenth District of the Berks County Sunday School Association, in October, the committee appointed several months before to make a house-to-house canvass of the city for the purpose of gathering statistics of persons attending or not attending church or Sunday-schools and the denominations to which they hold, if any, presented its report.

The canvass was made under the supervision of sixteen superintendents, one for each ward, and each superintendent had charge of a corps of volunteer visitors, the whole number being 221. Each ward superintendent laid out the districts of visitation so as to equalize the work of the canvassers. As each visitor completed the task assigned, returns were made to the superintendents, who, in turn, tabulated the cards for the different denominations, with the following result:

DENOMINATIONS	Number of persons visited	Number under 18 years of age	Number attending church at least once a month	Number attending Sunday-school regularly
Advent	37	6	28	17
Baptist	866	252	495	419
Catholic, Roman	6,551	2,212	4,130	1,833
Christian (Disciple)	85	35	71	60
Christian Science	21	3	17	3
Church of God	101	43	67	45
Congregational	7	..	..	..
Dunkard	80	23	34	21
Episcopal (Protestant)	1,088	290	685	405
Evangelical Association	1,180	399	803	740
Friends (Quaker)	19	2	12	..
Friendship Mission	64	23	46	42
Gospel Tabernacle	44	16	18	24
Hope Rescue Mission	46	15	8	12
Holiness Christian	76	35	25	28
Hebrew	581	243	283	77
Lutheran	14,653	4,917	8,474	5,677
Mennonite	103	56	60	32
Methodist Episcopal	3,129	944	1,960	1,470
Methodist, Primitive	10	6	..	1
Moravian	3	2	3	1
Neversink Mission	81	29	24	28
No preference	849	259	281	268
Not at home	7,192	2,384	4,046	3,414
Presbyterian	1,473	464	853	553
Reformed Church	13,912	4,358	7,389	5,638
Refused information	166	55	83	62
Salvation Army	53	16	28	9
Spiritualist	28	6	7	11
United Brethren	1,577	577	946	760
United Evangelical	3,052	1,107	1,826	1,678
Universalist	306	73	109	123
Home Department	..	..	..	1,509
Cradle Roll	..	..	..	1,446
	57,435	18,850	33,611	26,446



SCHOOLS

Early Education.—Education was encouraged at Reading from the beginning of its history. It was carried on mostly in connection with the churches. Two of the earliest teachers connected with the Lutherans, who taught for many years, were Jo-



FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE AT READING

seph Fleischer and Paul Fuegner. John Philip Foesig was the teacher with the Reformed for over fifty years, having begun in 1751. The Trinity Lutheran school at Sixth and Washington streets was used for educational purposes for nearly one hundred years, 1765 to 1855.

The Reading Academy was a prominent school for sixty years. It was incorporated in 1788 and given aid by the State. The building stood on the southwest corner of Seventh and Chestnut streets. The trustees sold it in 1838, and then erected another at Fourth and Court streets (site of Girls' High School), which was occupied as a private school until 1853, and since then as a public high school.



FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL

Common School System.—The common school system of 1834 was adopted at Reading in 1836. The first directors had been, however, elected in 1835. Then there were seventeen schools, seventeen teachers, and 1,139 scholars. The first public school buildings were erected in 1838, four in number, and the illustration given represents the building at Sixth and Walnut streets.

The High School was organized in 1852, and the co-education of boys and girls was carried on from 1857 to 1881. The Boys' High School was erected in 1883 at a cost of \$65,500; the Girls' (in place of the Reading Academy) in 1895, at a cost of \$110,000; and the new Boys' High School in 1905, at a cost of \$375,000.

The revised charter of 1864 for the city, consolidated the five wards into one district, under the name of the Reading School District. The city charter of 1874 made provision for school affairs, but it was not accepted. The district is therefore a separate organization. Under the provisions of the Act of 1864, the district is authorized to assess and collect taxes for school purposes. The management of the school affairs by the board since then has been very successful.

A local normal school was organized in 1852. The first city superintendent was elected in 1867.

COMPARATIVE TABLE, 1854-1908

	Teachers	Scholars	Tax Rate	Tax Levied	State Appr.
1854	38	1,976		\$ 10,764	\$ 746
1865	83	6,449	.008	26,238	1,791
1875	128	6,328	.015	74,733	6,750
1885	162	7,113	.004	98,000	10,266
1895	233	10,235	.004	145,707	58,047
1908	353	13,869	.001	230,939	64,156

The city superintendent reported the following attendance in the schools during the month of February, 1909:

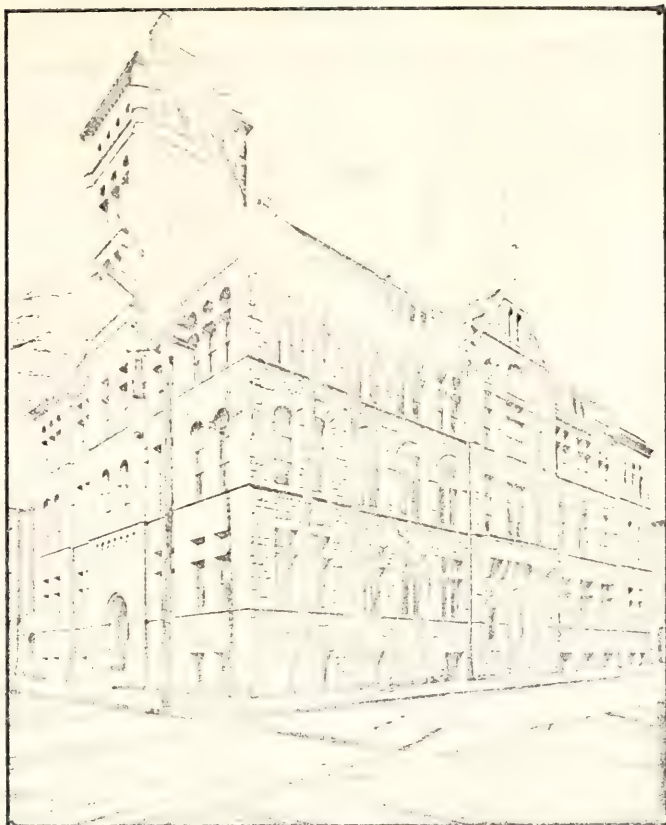
	Male	Female	Total
High School for Boys	484	...	484
High School for Girls	...	508	508
Eighth grade	262	305	567
Seventh grade	333	376	709
Sixth grade	533	483	1,016
Fifth grade	801	658	1,459
Fourth grade	934	847	1,681
Third grade	799	783	1,582
Second grade	856	810	1,666
First grade	1,072	978	2,050
Ungraded schools	34	3	37
Normal senior class	0	28	28
Normal junior class	0	27	27
Total	6,008	5,806	11,814
Evening High	218	96	314
Evening Grammar	111	54	165
Evening Elementary	139	36	175
Total	468	186	654
Grand Total	6,476	5,992	12,468

The annual expenditures were reported at \$100,561; of which \$196,237 were for teachers' salaries, and \$11,191 for books and supplies.

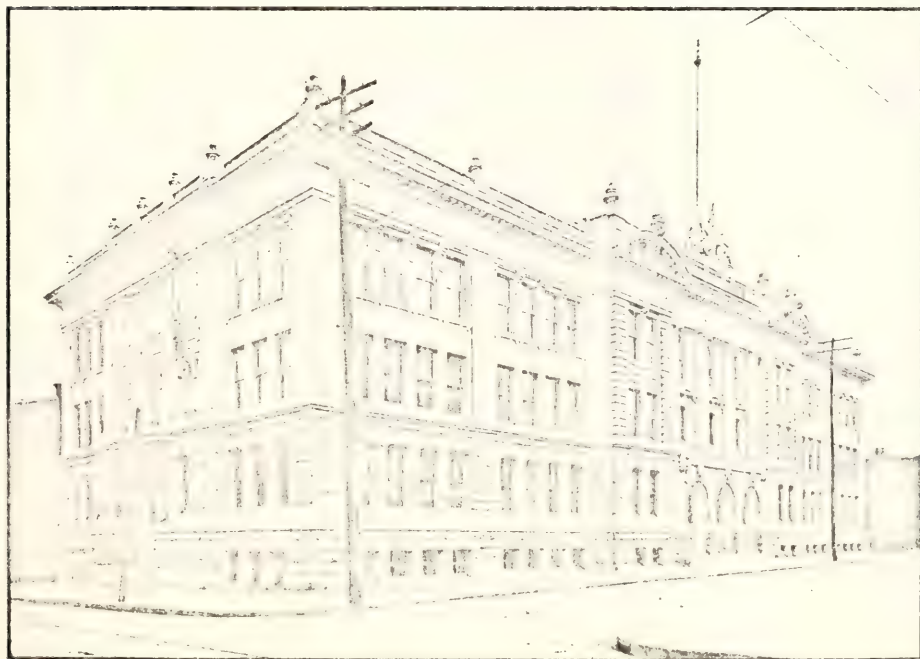
Institutes.—The first County Institute comprising the teachers of the county was held at Reading in 1867, and annually thereafter.

The first City Institute, comprising only the teachers of Reading, was held in 1885 and annually thereafter.

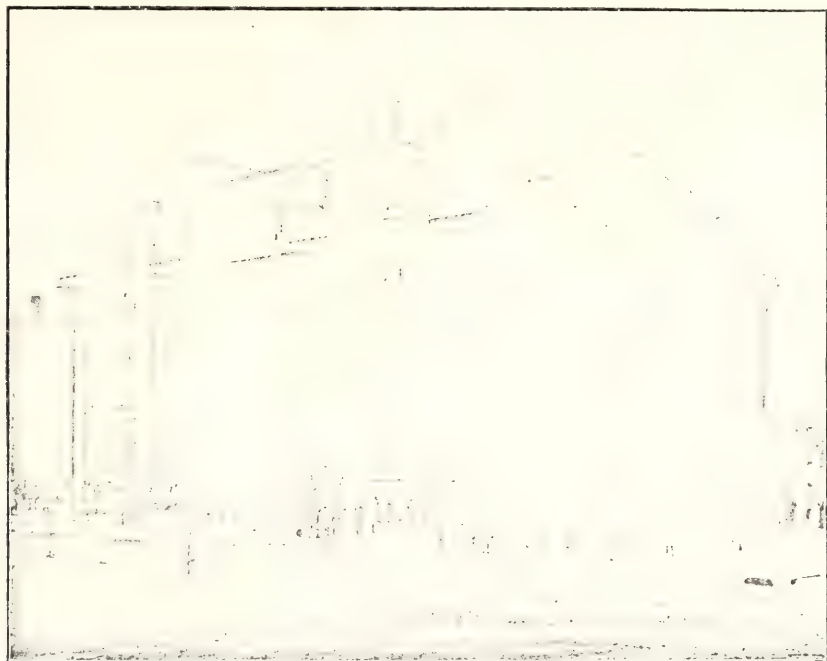
The Pennsylvania State Educational Association



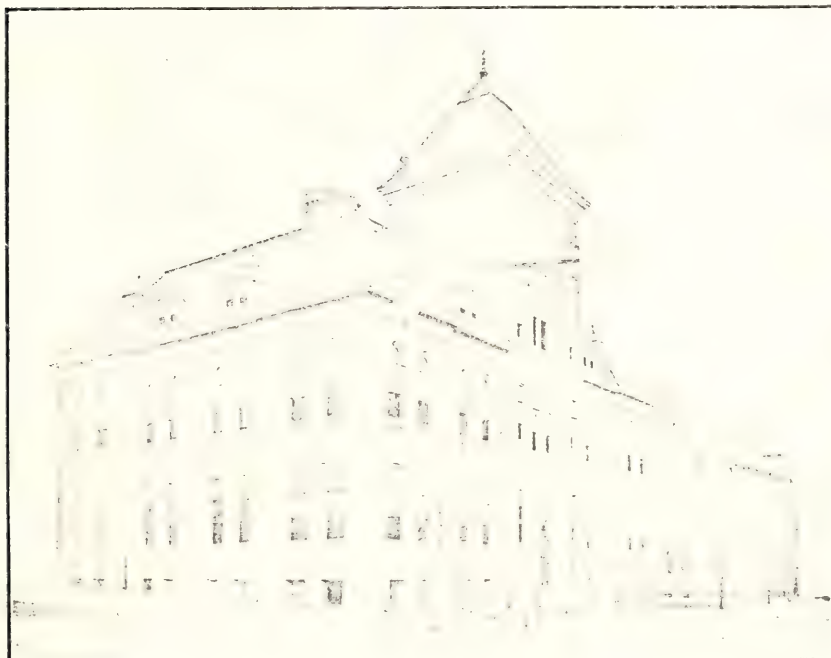
GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL, READING



BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL, READING



PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING, ELEVENTH AND PIKE STREETS, READING



PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING, FIFTH AND SPRING STREETS, READING



held three meetings or conventions at Reading, in 1863; in 1878; and in 1905. And to show the wonderful increase in attendance of the delegates, in 1863 there were only 80; in 1878, 248; and in 1905, 1,306.

Prof. Samuel A. Baer, of Reading, was the president of the Association in 1884; and Prof. E. Mackey, of Reading, in 1899.

City School Buildings.—In 1908, the school department had forty-six buildings which were occupied by schools, and one (formerly the Boys' High School) for administration purposes. Their total value, including furniture, was about one and one-half millions of dollars. Their situation, value, and capacity appear in the following table:

BUILDINGS	Ward	Date of Erection	Seating Capacity	Value of Real Estate	Value of Furniture
Jesse Orr.....	1	1890	360	\$ 20,000	\$ 1,200
Thomas Severn.....	2	1880	360	15,000	1,200
Ninth & Spruce.....	2	1896	360	20,000	1,200
Bingaman & Orange.....	2	1854	270	15,000	900
J. H. Hagenman.....	3	1875	360	16,000	1,000
Park.....	3	1898	270	24,000	900
George Lerch.....	4	1868	450	23,000	1,200
Chestnut Street.....	5	1890	360	20,000	1,000
Franklin Street.....	5	1868	360	18,000	1,000
Washington Street.....	6	1886	540	27,000	1,800
Ricktown.....	6	1889	360	18,000	800
Buttonwood & Pear.....	6	1897	360	23,000	1,200
High School for Girls.....	7	1896	600	125,000	6,000
Lewis Bruer.....	7	1873	360	19,000	1,300
Elm & Madison Ave.....	7	1899	180	9,500	400
Administration.....	8	1883		61,500	600
High School for Boys.....	8	1906	1,000	329,000	45,000
Poplar Street.....	8	1891	360	16,000	1,200
Henry S. Eckert.....	8	1872	360	16,000	1,200
Elm and Moss.....	9	1901	500	35,000	1,300
12th & Buttonwood.....	9	1895	360	21,000	1,200
John S. Richards.....	10	1872	360	13,000	1,200
Maple & Cotton.....	10	1901	180	16,800	650
Mulberry Street.....	11	1892	360	23,000	1,200
Tenth & Green.....	11	1904	540	40,000	2,000
Mount Penn.....	11	1899	180	13,600	600
Edwin Ziegler.....	12	1882	360	18,000	1,200
12th & Greenwich.....	12	1895	360	26,000	1,200
Ninth & Windsor.....	12	1900	360	23,600	1,200
Spring & Moss.....	13	1899	360	23,000	1,000
Eleventh & Pike.....	13	1898	360	19,100	1,200
Marion.....	13	1870	360	16,000	800
Site.....	13			20,000	
Twelfth & Windsor.....	13	1889	360	16,000	1,000
Tenth & Union.....	13	1890	360	21,200	1,200
C. B. McKnight.....	14	1880	180	6,000	600
Spring & Church.....	14	1894	180	12,000	600
Site.....	14			1,200	
Fifth & Spring.....	14	1900	360	25,000	1,200
2d & Oley, No. 1.....	14	1894	180	9,000	600
2d & Oley, No. 2.....	14	1898	360	18,000	1,000
J. H. Jacobs.....	15	1880	180	7,000	400
Schuylkill Ave., No. 1.....	15	1891	180	10,000	600
Schuylkill Ave., No. 2.....	15	1898	360	21,300	1,200
Douglass & Weiser.....	15	1903	360	23,000	1,200
Site.....	15			4,600	
Samuel Frees.....	16	1875	360	15,000	1,000
17th & Cotton.....	16	1881	180	10,000	600
Sixteenth & Haak.....	16	1898	360	20,700	1,200
Perkiomen Ave.....	16	1892	360	38,000	1,200
Total.....			16,220	\$1,381,400	\$97,470

\$1,381,400

Total Valuations.....\$1,478,850

Private Schools.—Private schools have been carried on at Reading since the beginning of the town. They were well patronized until 1840, when the effect of the common system began to be felt. But the growth of the public system did not cause the private schools to be abandoned, for patronage of them has continued to be more or less active. Of the non-secular class, there are the Benade school for children, started in 1870; and Mrs. Adele Ruenzler's, in 1877; Stewart Academy, founded by J. A. Stewart in 1881, and conducted successfully by his daughter Anna since his decease, in 1890; Inter-State Commercial College, founded by Rev. Henry Y. Stoner in 1885; Schools of Stenography by Elmer W. Deck in 1890, by J. T. Kerst in 1898 and Rev. J. V. George in 1900; and L. C. McCann. The last named has been at Reading since March, 1908; pupils, thirty-six; came from Mahanoy City, where he had conducted a school for thirteen years. His place was former School of Commerce (conducted by Strickler & Shoop) and George F. Klein-ginna's Business College, carried on altogether upward of ten years.

The sectarian schools are Academy of Immaculate Heart, founded in 1859; St. Peter's Roman Catholic, in 1859; St. John's German Lutheran, in 1865; St. Paul's Roman Catholic, in 1869; St. Mary's Polish Roman Catholic, in 1895—all of which are largely attended and successfully conducted.

Schuylkill Seminary.—The institution was founded by the East Pennsylvania Conference, in the city of Reading, August 19, 1881, and removed to Fredericksburg, Pa., in September, 1886. The location of the institution there was due to the liberality of Col. John H. Lick, a native of the place, by whose munificence, together with the contributions of the Conference and of the community, a large and beautiful structure was erected, furnished with apparatus, supplies and furniture, and made attractive by the beautifying of the grounds. The institution remained at Fredericksburg until the close of the academic year, June 19, 1902.

A few weeks prior to this, the property known as the Schwyn Hall School, comprising over seven acres of land at Thirteenth and Exeter streets, Reading, Pa., was taken under consideration by the trustees of Schuylkill Seminary as a profitable investment and a providential opportunity for removing the school to Reading. The trustees and the entire Conference had thought for some time that the school would have a larger sphere and greater patronage in the vicinity of a city, made easily accessible by good railroad facilities. They accordingly secured an option on the property, and at a meeting of the voting members of the East Pennsylvania Conference, held July 1, 1902, on the proposed site, it was unanimously decided to purchase the property. The members at the

same time requested the city of Reading to raise a certain sum of money needed to purchase the property and make the necessary repairs. An active canvass had been instituted presumptive of favorable action by the members of the Conference for the removal of the school. A large portion of the sum had already been subscribed. It was decided that the canvass should be continued, the assurance being given that the city would meet every expectation, thus reflecting great credit upon its liberal citizens and thereby showing an intense zeal in the cause of education and the welfare of its promising youth.

Schuylkill Seminary is uniquely located at the base of Mt. Penn. near Thirteenth and Exeter streets, Reading. The campus, consisting of nearly eight acres, is admirably adapted for school purposes. The excellent tennis courts, the baseball diamond, and the croquet plot, furnish ample opportunity for the necessary outdoor exercise of the student. On the grounds is a spring of the purest water. That, in itself, is an invaluable aid to the institution.

The buildings are three in number, consisting of the main building, the chapel and the gymnasium. In the main building are the office, the library, class-rooms, the dining-room, dormitories for ladies, etc. The second floors of both the chapel and the gymnasium are used as dormitories for men. All the buildings are lighted with electricity, heated with steam and provided with hot and cold water. These well-equipped buildings, together with the beautiful grounds, make the Seminary a very attractive institution. It has an endowment of \$65,000.

The purpose of Schuylkill Seminary is to prepare young men and women for college and for life. For those who do not intend to enter college, the courses offer special advantages to those preparing to enter theological or other professional schools. Though originally opened as a Seminary of a higher grade, which nature it still retains, it was the desire of its founders that it should gradually mature into a college, by raising the standard of scholarship for admission, extending its courses of study, and completing its equipment in the way of increased apparatus and facilities for instruction. This plan has met with a marked degree of public favor, and is now in progress of fulfillment.

The Seminary is under the patronage of the East Pennsylvania Conference of the Evangelical Association. Bishop S. C. Breyfogel, D. D., is president of the trustee board. Rev. W. F. Teel, Ph. M., is principal.

NEWSPAPERS

From the beginning of the town until 1800, some inhabitants received the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, pub-

lished at Philadelphia, which gave them foreign news, and events of surrounding places which occurred weeks before. Local news was not reported. An occasional letter from Reading was published; but the important happenings, such as we are now accustomed to read daily, were not noticed, for they were communicated by social intercourse at stores and taverns.

The first newspaper at Reading was issued in 1789, but did not continue long. It was printed in the German language and was called *Der Neue Unparteiische Readinger Zeitung* (*The New Impartial Reading Newspaper*). The next appeared in 1796. In that year several were begun and one of them has been published until now, the *Reading Adler*. Another, the *Weekly Advertiser*, was published until 1816, when the *Berks and Schuylkill Journal* took its place. Afterward, for forty years, many were issued, but with few exceptions they were not published many years. They were all weekly publications, issued on different days of the week, but mostly on Saturday. Until 1847, the daily newspaper was not issued, not even suggested. The first English daily was established in 1858, and the first German daily in 1868. [For list of Newspapers of County, see Chapter III.]

ASSOCIATIONS

Associations have occupied a prominent place in the social life of Reading for over a hundred years. At first they were few in number, but as the population increased a desire to organize bodies of various kinds and for different purposes manifested itself more and more, particularly after the incorporation of Reading as a city. Then the secret society became very active, and this activity has been kept up until the present time. They are classified and treated in the following order:

Military	Industrial	Musical
Protective	Literary	Charitable
Secret	Patriotic	Religious
Financial	Professional	

MILITARY

The first association at Reading was organized in 1754 for purposes of defense against the Indians. It was during the French and Indian war, which affected this section of Pennsylvania from that time until 1763. Conrad Weiser was the most prominent military officer. Small companies of men were constantly quartered here, and the spirit of co-operation was shown until peace was declared and the Indians departed.

Associations of this character were again organized in 1774, and they prepared the way for a long and costly participation in the Revolution. They became compulsory in 1775 by legislation. The system, which was established during that trying period for eight years, was preserved and thereby a military spirit became a noteworthy feature of



the social life of the people. Whenever a call for troops was made, they responded with such alacrity as to be among the very first of the Nation's defenders.

From the close of the Revolution until the Civil war of 1861-65, the "Militia System" was very active both in the city and county. In 1856 the militia comprised altogether twenty-four companies with a total enrollment of 1,463 men, of which six companies were from Reading with a total enrollment of 539 men. At the close of the Civil war, the military spirit was greatly reduced, but the system was nevertheless continued by virtue of an Act passed in 1864 under the name of the "National Guard of Pennsylvania," with a limited representation from the city and the county.

Since 1865, there have been three companies, which were engaged in the Spanish war of 1898, two from Reading, and one from Hamburg. [See Chapter VIII.]

Armory.—Capt. H. Melvin Allen, of Company A, 4th Regiment, N. G. P., revived the subject of providing an Armory for the National Guard at Reading. He raised \$12,000 by soliciting subscriptions from the business people of Reading and purchased a lot (77 feet by 155 feet) at the northeast corner of Walnut and Rose streets, and, with the encouragement of the State authorities, a superior and commodious building was erected in 1908 and 1909, costing \$50,000.

PROTECTIVE

Before 1773, the inhabitants of Reading were in a primitive state with respect to their ability to extinguish fires, but the town was small, the buildings were limited and comparatively scattered and the investments in property were inconsiderable.



FIRE ENGINE

A fire, therefore, seldom, if ever, occasioned great loss to the community. Leathern buckets were commonly used in which to carry water from the nearest pumps for the purpose of extinguishing fires; and they sufficed for a score of years. But the progress and increasing compactness of the town required an improved method. The demand was satisfied by the introduction of a forcing engine, operated by manual labor, in 1773, when the Rainbow Fire Company was organized, and it was used until 1860. Buckets were then not entirely dispensed with; they were useful still in filling the

body of the engine with water, from which it was pumped upon the fire. Water was thus carried until 1821, when the Reading Water Company laid pipes through the streets for the purpose of supplying water by gravity. Then the hand engine was placed at the plug nearest the fire, and water was conveyed into it by a short hose. A long hose extended from the engine to a point near the burning building, and the water was forced through it upon the fire.

The steam fire-engine was introduced here in 1860 by the Reading Hose Company, and within the next few years four additional engines were added to the Fire Department. The following table shows the organization of the several companies and their membership:

FIRE COMPANIES

Company	Instituted	Members
Rainbow	1773	587
Junior	1813	690
Reading Hose	1819	432
Never sink	1829	261
Friendship	1848	620
Liberty	1854	875
Washington Hook & Ladder	1855	386
Keystone Hook & Ladder	1856	187
Hampden	1867	220
Marion	1881	175
Riverside	1890	205
Schuylkill	1892	350
Union	1898	350

Soon after the introduction of the steam fire-engine, the companies considered the propriety of forming an association for more readily accomplishing the object of their existence. Representatives from eight companies assembled on March 18, 1861, and formed a "Firemen's Union." This was an ordinary association for four years, composed of five delegates from each company; but finding its powers inadequate, it was incorporated on March 15, 1865, under the name of "Firemen's Union of the City of Reading," and the Union has since acted under this charter. The management is vested in a board of trustees, elected by the Union annually, composed of one member from each company represented in the Union.

In 1873, the electric fire-alarm was introduced into the city. Previously, the alarm was sounded on the bells of the Trinity Lutheran Church for many years, till 1840; then upon the bell of the Court-House for a period of thirty-three years. The locality of the fire was indicated by a number of strokes on the bell to correspond with the number of the ward where the fire was. Now, the alarm is given publicly in different sections of Reading. Alarms are also struck in the buildings of the respective fire companies.

During 1871 and 1872, there were numerous false alarms of fire, and these became so annoying that a remedy had to be provided. Henry W. Spang advocated the Gamewell fire-alarm system, and through his efforts councils adopted it in 1873. The battery, mechanical apparatus and switchboard are located in the City Hall. This system embraces

89 boxes, distributed in seven circuits, connected with 43 miles of copper wire. The circuits are as follows:

No. 1 fire-alarm circuit is 7.022 miles long and has eighteen alarm boxes, two engine houses and one tower striker connected with it.

No. 2 fire-alarm circuit is 5.73 miles long and has on it seventeen fire-alarm boxes, five house gongs, two engine houses and two tower strikers.

No. 3 fire-alarm circuit is 3.56 miles long and has on it ten fire-alarm boxes, two engine houses and one tower striker.

No. 4 fire-alarm circuit is 4.48 miles long and has on it eleven fire-alarm boxes, two engine houses and one tower striker.

No. 5 fire-alarm circuit is 2.02 miles long and has on it seven fire alarm boxes, one office gong, one engine house and two tower strikers.

No. 6 fire-alarm circuit is 17.19 miles long and has on it sixteen fire-alarm boxes, one engine house and one tower striker.

No. 7 fire-alarm circuit is 3.41 miles long and has on it ten fire-alarm boxes, one engine house and one tower striker.

The first State convention of the Firemen's Association of Pennsylvania, held at Reading, was in September, 1881, and the second in October, 1895. On both occasions there were great parades, the latter having been particularly distinguished for the great number of companies and men in line.

Growing out of the Firemen's Union, two associations of great utility were organized, the Volunteer Firemen's Association, and the Reading Firemen's Relief Association, which hold monthly meetings.

The Veteran Firemen of Reading have also formed an association which meets regularly every month. The membership is at present 440; president, Charles F. Brissel.

The Firemen's Union caused a fine granite monument to be erected on Penn Common, at the Penn street entrance; it was dedicated Sept. 2, 1901. It occupies a prominent position and represents a volunteer fireman on a shaft.

The fire department in 1909 had the following equipment, valued at \$138,000:

Fire Engines	11	Ambulances	2
H. & L. Trucks	2	Feet of Hose	20,000
Chemical Engines	2	Hose Wagons	4
Chemical Comb'n		Hose Cart	1
Wagons	11	Patrol Wagon	1
Fire Extinguishers	26	Smoke Protectors	60
Horses	62	Life Saving Nets	7

Chief Engineers.—The following persons have officiated as chief engineers:

David A. Stout	1867-1868
John A. Buch	1869
John F. Weitzel	1870
Henry A. Albright	1870-1871
Lewis L. Moyer	1872
Howard F. Boyer	1873-1883
George W. Miller	1885-1903

SECRET

The secret society was started as a distinct organized body by the Free and Accepted Masons at Reading in 1780, but it was not maintained. It

was started a second time in 1791 and has continued until the present time. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was started here in 1838. The two were the only secret orders carried on at Reading when it became a city in 1817. Since then numerous other societies have been organized and carried on with each succeeding decade and each order has come to include various bodies with a large total membership. A brief description of all of them cannot be attempted in this compilation.

F. and A. M.—In 1894, Lodge No. 62, Free and Accepted Masons, celebrated the centennial of its institution, and caused a souvenir history to be published. The order has six lodges at Reading. These lodges, two Royal Arch Chapters, and two Knight Templar Commanderies, erected a superb four-story granite front Masonic Temple on North Fifth street beyond Washington, at a cost exceeding \$150,000. The first Knight Templar State Conclave at Reading convened in 1872, and the second in 1895. On both occasions, the event was signalized by a superb parade.

Shrine Reception.—The Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, No. 50, at Reading, gave a public reception in Penn Square to a number of distinguished Nobles on Wednesday, May 19, 1909, including Rear Admiral Winfield Scott Schley (member of Alma Temple of Washington, D. C.), Maj. Gen. J. P. S. Gobin (member of Zemo Temple of Harrisburg, Pa.), and Rt. Rev. Ethelbert Talbot (member of Irene Temple of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.), whilst on a fraternal visitation. The pupils of the public schools, of the several grades, numbering about 9,000, participated in the parade. Their behavior during the public reception was highly creditable, and their singing of the "Star Spangled Banner," "America," and "Onward, Christian Soldiers," with the accompaniment of the Ringgold, Philharmonic and Allentown bands of music, was truly inspiring, more especially during the repeated waving of small American flags by the thousands of pupils in the center of the Square. A larger public assemblage was never before witnessed in Reading. The weather was ideal and the orderliness of the great throngs of people whilst moving into and out of the Square was remarkable.

At Rajah Temple, in the evening, a regular meeting of the Shrine was held at which a large number of applicants for membership were initiated, and afterward the distinguished guests and members were entertained at a banquet, nearly a thousand having participated.

I. O. O. F.—The first lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted at Reading in 1838. An association was incorporated in 1845 for erecting a hall for use of the Odd Fellows and all other benevolent societies of the place; a lot was purchased at Fifth and Franklin streets, and a four-story brick building was erected thereon. At the dedication on Oct. 26, 1847, dignitaries of the Supreme Lodge, and of the Grand Lodges, of the order of this and other States were in attendance.



In 1868, this hall was purchased by the Reading Library Company. In 1880, the Grand Lodge met at Reading, and again in 1893. At the latter convention, John Wunch, a resident of Reading, was elected Grand Master, and in that year he laid the corner-stone of the I. O. O. F. Temple at Philadelphia. Since 1847, only one grand parade has been given by the order at Reading, and this was in 1882.

K. G. E.—The first castle of the Knights of the Golden Eagle was instituted at Reading in 1885. The Grand Castle convened at Reading in 1886, and the Supreme Castle in 1897.

G. A. R.—The following bodies have been organized at Reading by men who were enlisted in the Civil war, or by members of their families:

McLean Post, No. 16, instituted 1866; and Womans Relief Corps.

Keim Post, No. 76, instituted 1878.

Meade Camp, No. 16, Sons of Veterans, instituted 1881; and Ladies' Aid Society, No. 6.

Union Veteran Legion Encampment, No. 43, instituted 1889; and Ladies' Auxiliary.

Ladies of the G. A. R., instituted 1883.

Ringgold Light Artillery, First Defenders, organized at Reading in 1892 with the four other companies which were the first to respond to the call of President Lincoln for troops in 1861. They caused a granite monument to be erected on Penn Common which was dedicated on July 4, 1901.

Through the efforts of the members of the two posts an imposing granite soldiers' monument was erected in Charles Evans Cemetery, and dedicated with interesting ceremonies in 1887.

P. O. S. of A.—The Patriotic Order Sons of America was instituted at Reading in 1860, and has come to be the strongest secret beneficial society here, comprising fourteen camps, with a total membership exceeding 3,835. In June, 1888, the National and State Camps held their conventions at Reading, and to signalize the extraordinary occasion, the Order gave a monster parade, which, in respect to the great number in line, and to the public decorations, exceeded all demonstrations of every kind theretofore given. In the latter part of August, 1897, the National convention was held at Reading, and the semi-centennial of the order was celebrated. The first camp had been instituted at Philadelphia in 1817, but it was obliged to suspend on account of the members enlisting in the Civil war. Camp No. 61, at Reading, maintained its organization, notwithstanding many of its members had enlisted also, and kept the order in existence, for which reason Reading was selected by the State Camp, and also by the National Camp, as the proper place for the celebration.

To signalize the extraordinary occasion, a monster parade of the Order was given on Aug. 26th, in which over nine thousand members participated. The local camps of Reading and the country districts manifested much enthusiasm and were untiring in their combined efforts to make the demonstration a grand success. The streets along the

route of the parade, more especially Penn street, were profusely decorated.

I. O. R. M.—This society was established at Reading in 1854 by the name of Ancient Order of Red Men, but this was changed to Improved Order in 1867.

Jr. O. U. A. M.—The Junior Order United American Mechanics was instituted at Reading in 1867. For some years it was noted for presenting the national flag to the school authorities for display over the public school buildings.

Benevolent Protective Order of Elks was instituted at Reading March 10, 1889. It established superior quarters at the northwest corner of Fifth and Franklin streets in 1904, costing \$30,000; and in 1908 erected a large and costly addition. "Elks' Hall" is a complete establishment in all its departments; the total cost is \$90,000. The membership in February, 1909, was 402; of which fifty were not resident in Berks county. It is the only society of the kind now in the county.

Fraternal Order of Eagles.—This beneficial society was organized at Reading in 1900, as Aerie No. 66, and since then has been very successful, having in May, 1909, 1,075 members. In 1903, the Order established a superior place in Lower Alsace township, a short distance beyond the Mineral Spring Hotel, as a resort for the members, costing \$20,000. It comprises a substantial building and six acres of land. The Aerie also secured a fine property on Penn street, No. 1040, for the members, which has been much improved, at a total cost of \$30,000. The president of the Aerie is William J. Moore, and the secretary William H. Croessant.

Other Societies.—Other secret societies, worthy of mention, with the time when first instituted at Reading, are the following: Order United American Mechanics, 1847; German Order of Harugari, 1849; American Protestant Association, 1857; Independent Order of Good Templars, 1858; Brotherhood of the Union, 1864; Knights of Pythias, 1867; Knights of Friendship, 1871; Knights of Mystic Chain, 1871; Royal Arcanum, 1880.

SOCIETY STATISTICS

In the following table the various bodies of these orders are enumerated, showing membership, date of institution, assets, etc.:

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS		Members
Lodge No. 62	.....	1794 318
Lodge No. 227, Chandler	.....	1848 446
Lodge No. 267, Teutonia	.....	1866 109
Lodge No. 455, St. John's	.....	1869 239
Lodge No. 549, Reading	.....	1876 266
Lodge No. 660, Isaac Hiester	.....	1908 123
Reading Chapter, R. A.	.....	1827
Excelsior Chapter, R. A.	.....
De Molay Commandery, No. 9, K. T.	.....	1854
Reading Commandery, No. 42, K. T.	.....	1871
Nobles of Mystic Shrine, No. 50	.....	1892
COLORED LODGES, F. & A. M.		
Lodge No. 73, Victor	.....	1890
Mt. Olive Chapter, R. A., No. 23	.....	1891
King David Commandery, K. T., No. 15	.....	1893

HISTORY OF BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

PATRIOTIC ORDER SONS OF AMERICA

	Members	Assets
Camp No. 61	188	\$ 2,060.
Camp No. 89	400	45,915
Camp No. 163	1,112	20,514
Camp No. 212	347	11,939
Camp No. 329	314	6,380
Camp No. 330	177	4,411
Camp No. 509	206	3,280
Camp No. 552	90	448
Camp No. 560	287	8,395
Camp No. 663	209	3,032
Camp No. 676	44	784
Camp No. 678	145	995
Camp No. 689	242	3,398
Camp No. 691	74	1,847
	3,835	\$113,398
Boroughs, 11 camps	2,115	81,454
Townships, 28 camps	3,419	148,152
Total	9,369	\$343,004

PATRIOTIC ORDER OF AMERICANS

Camps No. 17, No. 117, and No. 131.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

	Members	Assets
Germania Lodge, No. 158.....1846	30	\$ 1,800
Emblematic Lodge, No. 169.....1846	190	9,200
Vigilance Lodge, No. 194.....1884	258	21,600
Oley Lodge, No. 218.....1846	211	12,852
Progressive Lodge, No. 470.....1889	264	12,610
Mt. Penn Lodge, No. 518.....1874	250	9,200
Muhlenberg Lodge, No. 1085.....1895	198	6,300
Reading Encampment, No. 43.....1846		
Mt. Penn Encampment, No. 152		
Esther Lodge, No. 4, Daughters of Rebekah, 1886, 400		

IMPROVED ORDER OF RED MEN

	Members
Juniata Tribe, No. 74.....1867	855
Opkasset Tribe, No. 122.....1870	210
Ogalala Tribe, No. 186.....	345
Wyandot Tribe, No. 301.....	365
Manangy Tribe, No. 316.....	223
Unamis Tribe, No. 330.....	257
Neversink Tribe, No. 351.....	242
Metacomet Tribe, No. 416.....	335
Narragansett Council, No. 67, Degree of Pocahontas	
Indianola Council, No. 70, Degree of Pocahontas	
Opitsah Council, No. 117, Degree of Pocahontas	

KNIGHTS OF FRIENDSHIP

Fidelia Chamber, No. 5, 1880.
 Charity Chamber, No. 23, 1886.
 Reading Chamber, No. 26, 1888.
 Friendship Chamber, No. 28, 1889.
 Lincoln Chamber, No. 36, 1892.
 Prosperity Chamber, No. 48, 1899.

KNIGHTS OF GOLDEN EAGLE

	Members
Reading Castle, No. 49.....1885	323
Mt. Penn Castle, No. 51.....1885	244
Sirius Castle, No. 63.....1885	255
Fraternity Castle, No. 302.....1889	172
Muhlenberg Castle, No. 372.....1890	268
Victory Castle, No. 433.....1893	96
Prosperity Castle, No. 481.....1894	77
West Reading Castle, No. 487.....1895	116
Columbian Temple (Ladies), No. 17	
St. Bernard Temple (Ladies), No. 21	
Lady Bayard Temple (Ladies), No. 78...1895	
Mt. Penn Commandery, No. 51, Company B.	
St. Bernard Commandery, No. 6, Company C.	

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Friendship Lodge, No. 5.....1867
 Mt. Penn Lodge, No. 63.....1868
 Endowment Rank, No. 9.....1877
 Cashmere Temple, No. 37

UNITED AMERICAN MECHANICS

Reading Council, No. 46.
 Seminole Council, No. 88.
 Reading Council, No. 122 (Daughters of Liberty).

INDEPENDENT AMERICANS

Perseverance Council, No. 19.
 Resolute, Council, No. 27.
 Thaddeus Council, No. 252.
 Neversink Council, No. 371.
 Randall Council, No. 448.
 Laing Council, No. 995.

UNITED AMERICANS

Leona Evelyn Smith Temple, No. 78.
 Old Glory Temple, No. 80.
 Riverside Temple, No. 81.

PROTESTANT SOCIETIES

Charity Lodge, No. 34.
 Lady Ruth, No. 36.
 Aaron Lodge, No. 95.
 Neversink Lodge, No. 104.
 Aaron Juvenile Lodge, No. 13.

BROTHERHOOD OF THE UNION

Freedom Circle, No. 7, 1864.
 Lady Jefferson Home Communion, No. 5, 1867.

FORESTERS OF AMERICA

	Members.
Court Progress, No. 116.....1895	265
Court Wyomissing, No. 130.....1897	192
Court Conrad Weiser, No. 199.....1899	193
Court Victory, No. 123	

GERMAN ORDER OF HARUGARI

	Members
Goethe Lodge, No. 60, D. O. H.....1857	12

IMPROVED ORDER OF HEPTASOPHS

Reading Conclave, No. 67.
 Berks Conclave, No. 133.

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA

Neversink Camp, No. 7634.
 Reading Camp, No. 9289.

ROMAN CATHOLIC SOCIETIES

Ancient Order of Hibernians, No. 1 and No. 2.
 Bonifacius Brotherhood, 1866.
 Holy Cross, 1868.
 Emerald B. A. of St. Peter's Church, 1869.
 American Catholic Union, Reading Assembly, No. 28.
 Reading Knights of St. John.
 Knights of St. Casimir, 1898.
 Knights of St. John.
 Knights of Columbus.
 St. Peter's T. A. B. Society, 1883.
 St. Stanislaus Beneficial Society.

ROYAL ARCANUM

	Members
Mt. Penn Council, No. 495.....1880	440
Reading Council, No. 1704.....1889	136
Wyomissing Council, No. 1584.....1894	507

Club Houses.—Five club houses have been established at Reading: Wyomissing, 1890; Ivy Leaf, 1891; Independent Gun Club, 1891; Combine, 1891; Nursery, 1892; Elks, 1908; and Eagles, 1909.

FINANCIAL

Banks.—The first bank at Reading was established in 1808. It was a branch of the Pennsylvania Bank and continued until 1857, when it suspended. Its place of business was in the building now occupied by the National Union Bank.

The next was the Farmers, organized in 1814, which has been continued in the same building where it started. The Eckert family was prominently identified with it from 1836 to 1908.

The following list embraces the banks and trust companies at Reading, showing the time of organization, capital stock, resources, deposits, etc., in November, 1908. The banks are all national banks, excepting the last two, which are State banks:

TRUST COMPANIES AT READING

Name	Established	Stock	Resources	Deposits	Surplus, etc.	Trust Funds
Pennsylvania Trust Company.....	1886	\$250,000	\$4,011,464	\$2,831,169	\$ 527,224	\$2,820,175
Reading Trust Company.....	1886	500,000	1,872,749	1,035,427	335,209	4,207,644
Berks County Trust Company.....	1900	250,000	1,380,931	982,240	147,145	337,822
Colonial Trust Company.....	1900	*250,000	1,144,979	697,575	197,405	151,505
Commercial Trust Company.....	1904	125,000	346,282	204,900	16,382	2,542
				\$5,751,311	\$1,223,365	\$7,519,688

* \$125,000 paid in.

BANKS AT READING

Name	Established	Stock	Resources	Deposits	Surplus, etc.
Farmers.....	1814	\$400,020	\$3,229,115	\$1,513,347	\$856,275
Union.....	1837	200,000	2,498,801	1,341,147	796,064
First National..	1863	500,000	1,491,664	693,378	97,266
Keystone.....	1871	100,000	975,472	605,568	193,646
Second Nat'l...	1831	300,000	1,898,652	785,373	541,966
Penn.....	1883	100,000	1,800,881	1,356,917	248,944
Reading.....	1893	200,000	1,580,840	830,661	331,352
Schuylkill Val..	1890	100,000	684,537	411,791	172,746
Neversink.....	1901	50,000	201,378	113,809	22,494
			7,651,991	3,260,753	

Channing Bingham was the bank examiner of the national banks of the city and county for upward of ten years, until November, 1908, when, owing to illness, he was succeeded by Lloyd M. Tillman, who for thirteen years had been connected with the Treasury Department at Washington, D. C.

B. & S. A.—The building and savings association as an institution for the acquisition of property or accumulation of money out of savings by working people was organized at Reading in 1848,

and it has been kept up over sixty years. But it has not been so successful for the past ten years. Previous to 1876, the associations received moneys only and made them profitable on mortgage securities; then they began not only to erect dwellings, but also market-houses and business places. In 1897, there were 53 associations at Reading, but in 1905, only 8, and in 1908, 2.

Insurance Companies.—The first fire insurance company in Berks county was organized in 1844; and the first at Reading was in 1867. The Reading Fire Insurance and Trust Company was incorporated in 1868; the Trust company was incorporated as a separate institution in 1886. The Insurance company carried policies on properties throughout the United States east of the Rocky Mountains, with risks exceeding forty million dollars. It was discontinued in 1902, having transferred its risks to the Hartford Fire Insurance Company.

The Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Reading was organized in 1870, and since then it has not

levied a single assessment. Its insurance extends throughout Pennsylvania, and amounts to \$3,900,000; the policies number 3,000.

INDUSTRIAL

Board of Trade.—The first Board of Trade at Reading was formed in 1807, for the purpose of considering the possible navigation of the Schuylkill, a number of prominent men having at that time founded an association under the name of The Society for Promoting and Cleaning the River Schuylkill. The same men were interested in other local improvements, such as turnpikes, canals, bridges, and railroads; and they accomplished great good in the development of Reading.

A second board was started in 1870, but it had a short existence. The third, which is the present board, was organized in 1881, and it has kept up a successful existence until now. It was incorporated in 1889. The membership in March, 1909, was 350.

Unions.—All classes of working-people have formed unions for maintenance in sickness and co-operation in reference to employment, wages, etc., and they have had an active existence at Reading



for many years. Over thirty societies have been organized.

LITERARY

Libraries.—The *Reading Library* was organized in 1808. It contained 1,000 volumes in 1842, and 1,500 volumes in 1850. A reorganization was effected in 1868, when it purchased the Odd Fellows' Hall. It was made free Jan. 1, 1898, through the liberality of twenty-three men who each contributed \$500 toward extinguishing the debt on the hall. The present number of volumes is over 27,000. Dr. A. R. Durham was a most efficient librarian from 1898 until his decease in March, 1907, when he was succeeded by E. A. Howell as the librarian.

Reading German Library was organized in 1808, and began with 685 volumes. Subsequent additions were made until it had 1,500. The society disbanded in 1847, and the books were distributed amongst its members.

Berks County Law Library was organized in 1843 and kept up by appropriating certain fines allowed by law. The books are on the third floor of the Court-House. The collection of reports, text and miscellaneous books numbers 6,500.

Harmonie Maennerchor Library was started when the Reading Maennerchor was organized in 1847. The nucleus was the collection of books of the German Library, which disbanded about that time. An addition of 1,200 volumes was made in 1877 by the disbanding of the Schiller Verein.

Historical.—A historical society was formed in 1840, but no record of its transactions was preserved. In 1869, a second society was incorporated under the name of Historical Society of Berks County, but only several meetings were held. In February, 1898, a reorganization was effected with A. G. Green, Esq., as president, and George M. Jones, Esq., as secretary, and quarters were secured in the Court-House, third floor, for its meetings and for storing its papers. In 1904, a building was purchased at No. 519 Court street and a collection of historical publications was then begun. Mr. Green continued as president until his decease in 1902. He was succeeded by Louis Richards, Esq., who has served since. The library contains about 1,500 volumes, and the collection now includes many curios.

PATRIOTIC

Daughters who were descendants of soldiers enlisted in the Revolutionary war organized a society at Reading in 1892, which they called the Berks County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. A national society was organized at Washington in 1890; and in 1897 a State Association.

The members of the local society in 1909 numbered ninety-seven. The principal officers then were as follows:

Mrs. de B. Randolph Keim, Regent.
Mrs. John C. Jlig, Secretary.
Mrs. John B. Danpman, Historian.
Miss Addie Owen, Registrar.

A children's branch of the D. A. R., called the Conrad Weiser Branch, was organized in 1895, and in 1909 it had forty members.

In October, 1905, the Eighth Annual Pennsylvania State Conference of the D. A. R. met at Reading and was largely attended.

PROFESSIONAL

Medical.—A medical society was organized at Reading in 1824. It was the second society of this nature formed in Pennsylvania, the first having been at Philadelphia. Dr. Isaac Hiester was the first president and he continued to fill this position for twenty-five years. In 1849, the second annual convention of the State Medical Society was held at Reading, and in 1891 another was held here. In 1866, the name was changed to Berks County Medical Society, which it has held until now. The transactions began to be published in 1896.

The Reading Medical Association was organized by physicians of Reading in 1850. It was chiefly instrumental in establishing the Reading Dispensary, and the Reading Hospital. For some years, the meetings of both societies have been held in the Raser Drug Store at Sixth and Walnut streets.

A Homoeopathic Practitioners Association was organized and it was instrumental in establishing the Homoeopathic Hospital in 1887. It was reorganized in 1896, and in 1908 the name was changed to Berks County Homoeopathic Medical Society.

Legal.—Men learned in the law have been admitted to practice in the several courts of Berks county since 1752, but no society was organized until 1867; then the Legal Association of Berks County was established. Nearly all of the members of the Bar have resided and continue to reside at Reading, some of them having their residences and offices in the more prominent boroughs.

VOCAL MUSIC

Beethoven Society.—The first singing society at Reading was organized about 1832. It is called the Beethoven Society. The first concert was given in the "State-House" which was a great success. Concerts were given by the society for a number of years afterward.

Harmonie Maennerchor.—The second society was the Reading Maennerchor, organized in 1847. This has maintained an active existence ever since, and is now one of the oldest singing societies in the United States. The first National Saengerfest was held at Philadelphia in 1850, and William Rosenthal (then living at Philadelphia, but at Reading since 1860) was the presiding officer. There were



only four societies in attendance, the Reading Maennerchor being one of them. The first Saengerfest at Reading was given under the auspices of the society in 1868. It was attended by seventeen German singing societies. In 1874, the Harmonie Maennerchor (which was organized in 1866) consolidated with the Reading Maennerchor, and the former name was adopted. In 1878, the society secured quarters in the large structure on Sixth street near Walnut, on which account the building was named Maennerchor Hall, and there the society has remained until now. In 1884, the second Saengerfest was given at Reading and it was attended by several thousand Germans from different parts of the country. The National Saengerfests at Newark in 1891, at New York in 1891, and at Philadelphia in 1897, were attended by the society and the members acquitted themselves most creditably. The third Saengerfest at Reading was in 1892, known as the "First Pennsylvania Saengerfest," because only societies from the State were allowed to participate. On Aug. 5, 1897, the society celebrated its fiftieth anniversary, there being present many delegates from German singing societies from the Eastern and Middle States, besides delegations from all the German societies at Reading.

Reading Musical Society.—The third society was formed in 1855 by H. D. Torrey, an artist, and named the Reading Musical Society. Annual concerts were given and the organization was maintained until 1860.

Mozart Musical Union.—The fourth society was formed in 1862, and called the Mozart Musical Union. Concerts were given annually here and elsewhere until 1872.

Reading Choral Society.—In 1875, Prof. Edward A. Berg organized the fifth, by the name of Reading Choral Society. It participated in the May Musical Festival at New York City in 1882, which was given under the leadership of Theodore Thomas. The grand chorus comprised 3,500 voices, and in rendering one of the pieces on the program, the tenor part was sustained by the Reading Choral members so effectually as to win the special commendation of Thomas himself. The society was represented on that occasion by 103 members. Numerous concerts were given by the society at great expense, at which nearly all the renowned oratorios were rendered. The members reorganized in October, 1897, and participated in the Eisteddfod at Allentown, Pa., on Thanksgiving Day, where they won four cash prizes.

Reading Church Choral Society was organized from the Reading Choral Society shortly after E. A. Berg's decease in 1897, and Edward H. Kuerr has been the director until the present time. It numbers 100 members and gives three concerts each year, which are largely patronized. Its rehearsal meetings are given in the First Baptist Church.

Reading Liederkrans was organized in 1885. Its first festival was held in Deppen's Hall in 1890; on

which occasion German societies were in attendance from Reading, Pottsville, Allentown and Wilmington. In 1891 its quarters were established in Library Hall. In 1894 the society participated in the singing contest at Allentown and won the first prize, scoring the highest number of points. The quarters of the society were continued in Library Hall until 1901, when it purchased a property at No. 834 Chestnut street and remodeled the building to suit its purposes, where it has continued in very active and successful existence until the present time. It has given annual concerts here and elsewhere which were largely patronized and heartily appreciated. The membership in 1909 was forty-five active members, and 250 passive.

The society attended the State Saengerfest at Allentown in 1905, and at Wilkes-Barre in 1907, winning at the latter place the second prize in the first class.

During the "German Week" in 1908 at Pendora Park, the society gave three concerts on alternate days, assisted by the Germania Orchestra, and the attendance at the second concert was estimated at 15,000, evidencing the great popularity of the society and its superiority as a musical organization. Prof. George D. Haage has filled the position of director in a superior manner since February, 1903. Previous prominent directors were John Dersch and Jacob Schmidt. The officers for 1909 were: President, William Alsdorf; secretary, Henry Schorn; treasurer, Levi Weitzenkorn.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

The first brass band at Reading was organized in 1814. From that time until 1852, several bands flourished for a while, the Reading Military Band, and afterward the Mechanics' Brass Band, having been quite prominent.

Ringgold Band.—In 1852, eighteen men of Reading, mostly mechanics but fond of instrumental music, associated together and organized a band, which they named the Ringgold Brass Band, after the Ringgold Light Artillery, of which the men were members. John A. Hook was the leader. When the Civil war broke out, its services were tendered to the government. It was connected with the 25th Regiment; P. V., and served the term of its enlistment, three months. Joseph Winter became the musical director in 1868, and filled this position for thirty years, and brought it to a high state of efficiency. It accompanied the State Fencibles of Philadelphia to the centennial celebration of Bunker Hill; and by special request of the commissioners, it participated in the opening ceremonies of the Centennial at Philadelphia in 1876. In 1878, it took part in the centennial celebration at Valley Forge. In 1881, it was attached to the 1st Brigade, N. G. P., with 35 members; and in that year it was detailed to accompany a provisional brigade as an escort to the Governor and members of the Legislature at the centennial celebration at



Yorktown, Va. In 1888, it participated in the one hundredth anniversary of constitutional government at New York City; in 1895, in the centennial celebration at Huntingdon, Pa.; and in 1897, in the centennial celebration at Waynesboro, Pa. Besides these great occasions, it led political clubs in parades at nearly all the inaugurations of the Presidents of the United States, and of the Governors of Pennsylvania, since 1852. Its annual concerts are superb and well patronized. It furnished the music at the Princeton College reunions in 1903 and 1906.

Germania Band was organized in 1887 with Monroe A. Althouse as leader and had a very successful existence for fourteen years under his leadership, when it was consolidated with the Ringgold. Prof. Althouse has been the leader since then.

Other bands organized within the past ten years:
Cadet, 1898, 40 members; Arthur Yocum, leader since 1907.

White Eagle (Polish), 1899.

Colonial, 1901, Archie Boyer, leader.

Philharmonic, 1903, Harry E. Fahrbach, leader.

Italian, 1905, Ignatius Sparagana, leader, 30 members.

Municipal.

Prof. O. H. Unger has been teaching and organizing bands since 1865. In 1876 he had on hand thirty-two bands in Berks and surrounding counties. He directed the Liberty Band from 1877 to 1889; and the Philharmonic (formerly Athletic) for seven years. He also organized a Symphony Orchestra in 1904 with 15 members. It has been gradually enlarged to 50 members, and its concerts have been very popular.

Drum Corps.—The fife and drum corps was a musical institution at Reading from the time of the Revolution and its identity has been preserved until the present. It constituted three pieces: fife, small drum and large drum. When the Civil war was carried on from 1861 to 1865, several fifes and small drums were included in the corps, which made the "martial music" more demonstrative and effective. Since then the pieces have been gradually increased until they number twenty and more, including cornets and slide-trombones.

The "*Big-Six*" *Drum Corps* are old soldiers who were enlisted in the Civil war and they have maintained their musical organization until the present time. The leader is William Klineyoung.

There are now three other corps at Reading:

Military, organized in 1898, embracing 20 pieces; leader, Daniel Raudenbush.

Schuylkill, 21 pieces; leader, Harry Rickenbach.

Liberty, 16 pieces; leader, William Weidman.

CHARITABLE

Soup Society.—The first public association for indigent persons of Reading was formed in 1823. Owing to the construction of the Schuylkill canal, much sickness and distress arose in numerous families at Reading, and also along the canal to the county line beyond Birdsboro. The organization

was called a "soup society," and much relief was afforded. After the prevailing epidemic subsided, the society disbanded.

Benevolent Society.—In 1835, the Reading Benevolent Society was established. The first annual meeting was held on Jan. 1, 1836, and annual meetings have been held regularly ever since. The regular meetings of the managers were held in private houses until 1874; since then the building of the Relief Society has been occupied.

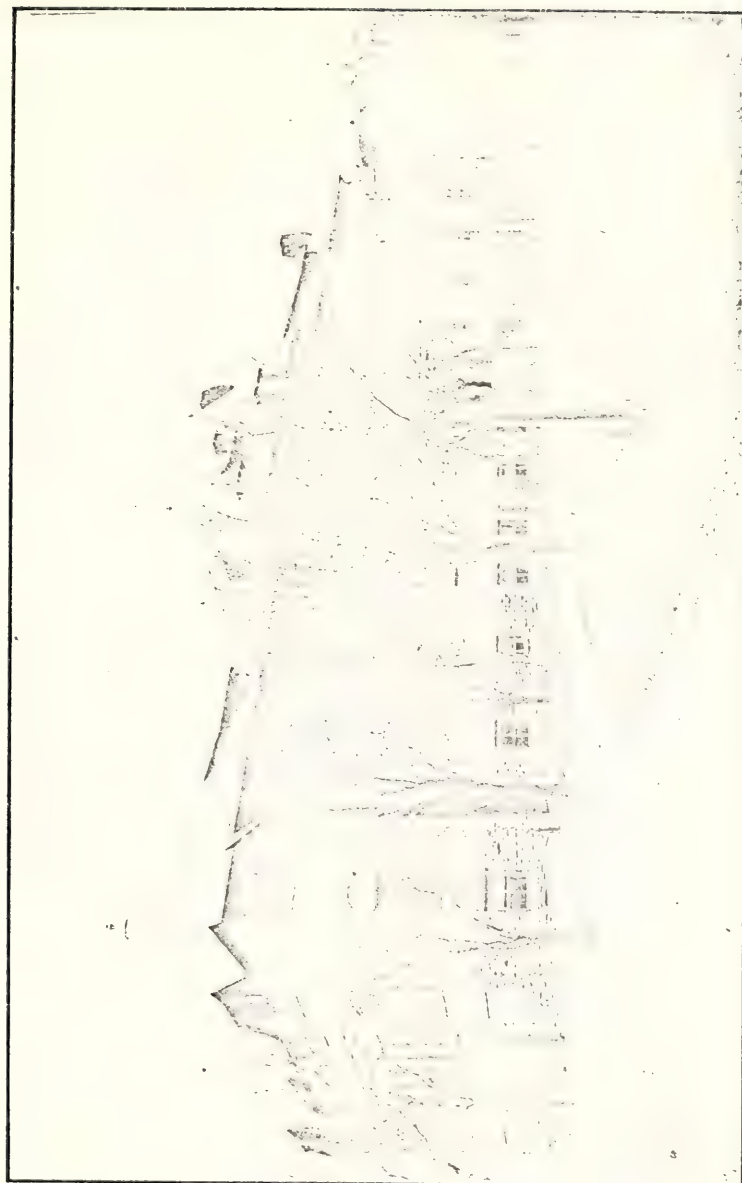
Relief Society.—In 1866, the Reading Relief Society was organized for distributing soup to the poor. It co-operates with the Benevolent Society. In 1874, a fine building at Franklin and Plum streets was erected for the society. It operates two buildings during the winter months, the other being on Spring street at Moss.

Bureau of Employment.—The Bureau of Employment was formed in 1875 by a number of women who were connected with the Benevolent Society, for employing deserving and self-respecting women at sewing and paying them fair prices for their work, either in money or clothing. Quarters were established in the Relief Society building. During the first winter, over two hundred women were supplied with work.

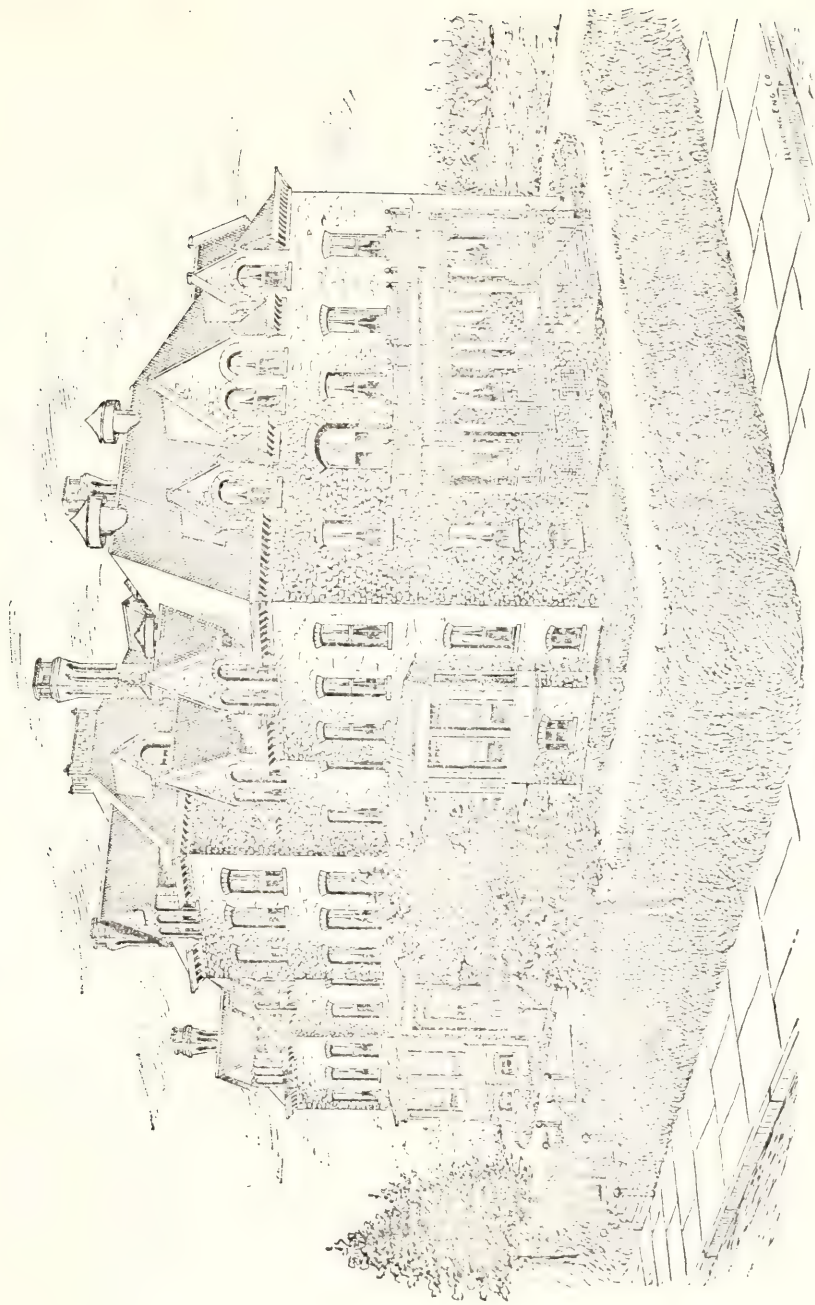
This society has had a successful existence until the present time. William M. Stauffer, a generous and public-spirited man, has served as president since its organization, and the society has had its quarters in his building at Sixth and Franklin streets since its erection in 1898. The society annually secures employment at household work for upward of five hundred women, which evidences the extent of its usefulness to the community. Mrs. James B. Brusstar has been its secretary since 1900; and its superintendent, since 1907, Miss Sarah Wentzel. The previous superintendent for seven years was Mrs. Anna E. Weissflog.

Reading Hospital.—A society was organized in 1868 to provide medical aid to the indigent sick and wounded people of Reading, and in 1869 it was incorporated under the name of Reading Dispensary. In 1883, this name was changed to the Reading Hospital. Then the directors raised \$25,000, and the State appropriated \$20,000 toward a building which was erected in 1884 at Front and Spring streets, which was opened in 1886. An addition was made to it in 1890, called the Wooten Wing (John E. Wooten) at a cost of \$20,000, and a Training School was erected on the lot for student nurses in 1896, by the efforts of the Ladies' Auxiliary. Annual contributions have been received from the State since its erection. The medical staff is selected from the Reading Medical Association and consists of six surgeons, six physicians and a resident physician, who are elected annually. Total cost, \$75,000. Annual reports have been issued showing its superb management. The board of managers comprise some of the most influential men of Reading.





READING HOSPITAL



WIDOWS' HOME, READING

A training school was established in 1890 for professional nurses and since 1891 there have been graduates annually, numbering altogether eighty-three. The number of beds in the hospital is sixty-five.

Patients treated during 1908 numbered 886, the largest since the opening of the hospital in 1869. The next largest number was 769, in 1898.

The number of patients treated have been as follows:

In-patients previously reported	11,038
During 1908	886
	<hr/> 11,924
Out-patients previously reported	27,418
During 1908	1,405
	<hr/> 28,823
Total treated	<hr/> 40,747

Officers of the Hospital:

President, Charles Kessler, 1867-72; Dr. Joseph Coblenz, 1872-81; W. E. C. Coxe, 1881-91; William D. Smith, since 1891.

Treasurer, H. H. Muhlenberg, 1867-69; A. F. Boas, 1870-72; Dr. W. M. Weidman, 1873-74; Dr. P. M. Ziegler, 1875-88; P. R. Stetson, 1889-1905; Frank S. Livingood, since 1905.

Secretary, Dr. P. M. Ziegler, 1867-72; Dr. J. B. Brooke, 1872-81; Dr. William F. Muhlenberg, 1882; Dr. Israel Cleaver, since 1883.

St. Joseph's Hospital.—In 1873, the Vollmer property at Twelfth and Walnut streets was purchased for hospital purposes by Rev. George Bornemann, and a small brick dwelling thereon was placed under the charge of the Sisters of St. Francis. In 1885, a superior large brick building was erected costing \$60,000, and in 1895, an addition was made to it costing \$85,000, all paid by contributions from the community, solicited by the Sisters. A large, superior and attractive annex was built in 1904. The medical attendance is supplied from the physicians at Reading.

The total number of patients treated has been 14,512 (in 1908 being 992, and in 1907, 975).

Sister Anastasia was the Mother Superior from 1885 to 1887; Sister Julianna, from 1887 to 1907; and Sister Fulgentia, from 1907 to the present time.

A training school for graduating nurses was established in 1905; three nurses were graduated in 1906, two in 1907, and three in 1908.

James Nolan has officiated as president of the board of managers since 1908, and Frederick Stephan as secretary since 1901.

Homoeopathic Hospital.—In August, 1887, seventeen women started the Homoeopathic Hospital and Dispensary Association, and for its maintenance funds were obtained from parlor entertainments, donations and membership dues. The demands for treatment increasing, a board of trustees was organized two years afterward, and premises No. 126 North Sixth street were purchased for \$21,000. The building was completely furnished by the Ladies' Auxiliary, and the hospital was formally

opened July 1, 1891. A fine, large and substantial annex was built in 1905.

Total number of beds in the hospital is seventy-five. There are four public wards; two private wards; and thirteen private rooms; also a contagious ward.

It is equipped with all the most recent medical and surgical appliances. Cost of institution, \$75,000.

The following statistics are presented to show the extent of its services to the community:

In-patients, 1905 to 1908	1,241
Out-patients, 1905 to 1908	8,048
Prescriptions, etc., 1905 to 1908	16,548
Accident cases, 1900 to 1908	8,146

A training school for nurses was established at the Hospital in 1895, and since then annually, excepting 1896, 1903 and 1907, nurses have been graduated, numbering altogether twenty-six.

Officers of the Hospital:

President, Isaac McHose, 1890-94; C. H. Ruhl, since 1894.

Treasurer, James L. Douglas, 1890-92; Jerome L. Boyer, 1892-1896; Charles E. Lippe, since 1896.

Secretary, C. H. Ruhl, 1890-94; W. W. Light, since 1894.

Dr. Lewis A. Shollenberger has been the superintendent of the hospital since 1897; and he has been serving on the medical staff since 1887.

Widows' Home.—The Society of the Home for Widows and Single Women was established in 1874, for the purpose of affording humane and charitable relief, assistance and support to widows and single women of Reading, and incorporated Jan. 11, 1875. A building was rented for a time; then a property on Eighth street near Chestnut street in which a "Home" was established, and there it continued until July 7, 1886, when it was removed to the present place at Sixteenth and Haak streets. The superior building then erected was occupied until Feb. 5, 1905, when it was destroyed by fire. It was immediately rebuilt at a cost of \$15,000. It has been managed in a most successful manner, many people of the city contributing annually toward its support, and the spirit constantly displayed is truly admirable. The officials from 1875, who have carried on this charitable institution, are the following:

First Directress, Mrs. M. A. DeWolfe Howe, 1875-94; Mrs. H. H. Muhlenberg, 1895-1901; Susan E. Benson, 1902-09.

Treasurer, Susan E. Benson, 1875-1900; Mrs. Jerome L. Boyer, 1901-07; Mrs. G. A. Schlechter, 1908-09.

Secretary, Rachel D. Griscom, 1875-89; Mrs. P. M. Ziegler, 1890-1909.

Matron, Elizabeth R. Lea, 1877-78; Mrs. Elizabeth Knox, 1878-80; Mrs. Emma Silheimer, 1880-81; Pamela P. Draper, 1881-84; Mrs. Mary A. Filbert, 1884-87; Miss Sarah R. Filbert, 1887 (June-Nov.); Emily T. Hamlin, 1887-98; Mrs. Margaret Nevin, 1899-1903; Mrs. Belle Worrell, 1904-09.

From 1875 to 1908, the society had secured forty-three life members. The inmates who died in this time were 56; and the inmates during the year 1908 were 36.



Home for Friendless Children.—The Home for Friendless Children began as a day nursery in May, 1884, under the auspices of the Bureau of Employment at No. 236 Franklin street, and a widow as matron, and five children were then placed there. The Home becoming too small, a lot was purchased on Centre avenue near Spring street, and a fine double two-story building erected, which was dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1888. The number of children averages from 35 to 40. The society endeavors to secure private homes for these children, and there they are kept until eighteen years of age. Two additions were built to it, the north wing in 1903, "the gift of that staunch friend of the Home, Mr. William D. Smith," and the south wing in 1906, also the gift of Mr. Smith, who, at the same time, presented a kindergarten outfit and swings for outdoor amusement.

The incorporators in 1888 were Margaretta C. Ermentrout, Elizabeth S. Richards, Emma A. Endlich, Amelia D. Leaf and Hannah Cotterel.

The first named served as president from 1888 to 1894, and the second from 1894 to 1898. Mrs. Rev. B. Bausman has served this position since 1898. Miss Cotterel has served as treasurer since 1888; and Miss Endlich served as the secretary from 1888 to 1908, when she was succeeded by Miss Addie C. Owen.

The matrons of this most commendable institution have been: Mrs. Lucy Frankum, 1888-96; Miss Kate Williams, 1896-98; Miss S. R. Hemperly, 1898-1904; Mrs. Flora C. Bricker, 1904-06; Miss Margaret J. Durr, 1906-10.

St. Catharine's Female Orphans' Asylum was founded by Mrs. Catharine Madary, who, in 1871, devised her property at Franklin and Maple streets to Archbishop Wood in trust for the rulers of the Mother House of the Sisters of Charity at Emmitsburg, Md. Three sisters came from Emmitsburg, and took possession in April, 1872. In 1873, a superior large brick edifice was erected, and in 1887, a large addition was built to it. The present number of girls in the asylum is 90; total number cared for is 410. Eight sisters are in the institution.

House of Good Shepherd was established at Fourth and Pine streets in 1889 by the Roman Catholics at Reading, and a colony of sisters from the Provincial House at Philadelphia came to Reading to take charge of it. It continued there until January, 1900, when it was removed to Glenside, where a superb institution was established on eight acres of ground at a cost of \$180,000. The object is to reclaim fallen girls and women, and teach them sewing and laundry work, so that when they leave the place they can earn a living. They are allowed to remain if they wish to do so, and then they become Magdalens. There are 25 cloistered sisters, 3 outdoor sisters and 13 Magdalens connected with the institution. Total number of girls cared for is 228; present number, 160.

St. Paul's Orphan Asylum for Boys was established at No. 137 North Ninth street in 1889 by

the St. Paul's Roman Catholic congregation, and 16 boys became its first inmates. Now it harbors 70 boys; total number cared for, 200. In 1897, the institution was enlarged. It is supervised by the rector of St. Paul's Church and supported by voluntary contributions; 10 sisters are in charge.

Canstatter Volks-Fest Verein was organized in 1882, for celebrating annually the "Canstatter Volks-Fest," and for fourteen years was very successful, the celebrations attracting many people, contributing much pleasure, and developing great sociability. The members were almost entirely Germans and at one time numbered 275. It was discontinued in 1903.

S. P. C. A.—The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was organized in 1891. It has been maintained successfully until now. Theretofore cruelty to animals was a common occurrence in Reading, but after a number of inhuman persons had been prosecuted and fined for their cruelty to horses and cattle (about one hundred, mostly persons from the country districts,) a much improved public sentiment followed. As a consequence, cruelty to animals is seldom seen upon the streets and complaints on that account are rare. This was succeeded by the "Humane Society of Berks County," incorporated in 1900 to protect children, as well as animals, from cruel treatment; it has since exerted much influence. Hon. H. Willis Bland was president until 1903, and George J. Gross has filled this office since then. The society established comfortable quarters at No. 114 South Sixth street; its membership is 250.

Beulah Anchorage.—This noble institution was founded at Reading in 1907 by Mrs. M. L. Landis. Its purpose is to rescue wayward and erring girls and women, and help them to secure positions of honorable self-support. The building is situated on Fifth street below Bingham, having been secured at a cost of \$6,000. Mrs. Kate L. Schultz is the matron. It has upward of six hundred contributing members and is generously assisted by donations. Through its influence, many girls and women have been reformed and found comfortable homes.

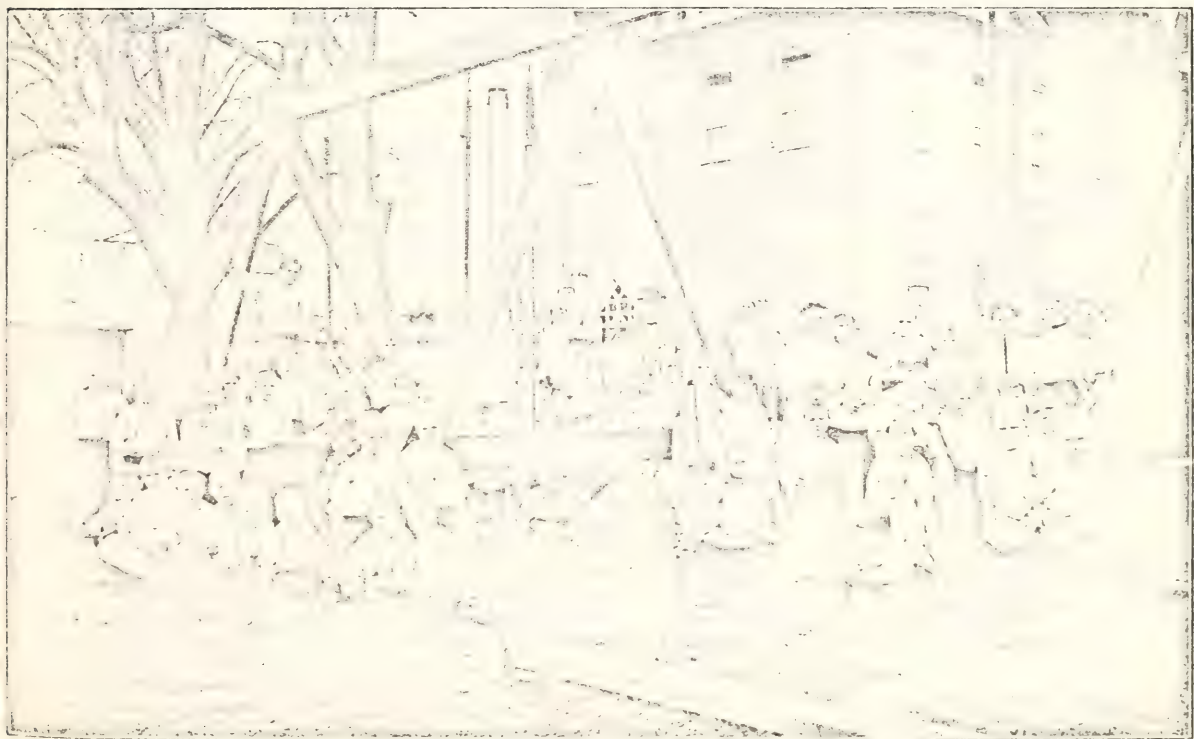
RELIGIOUS

Y. M. C. A.—The Young Men's Christian Association began at Reading in 1860, but it did not continue long in existence. A second attempt was made in 1869, and the organization then effected has continued until the present time. From 1879 to 1895, it was situated in the Breneiser building at Eighth and Penn streets. Its quarters were established at No. 626 Penn street in 1895, at a total cost of \$75,000. The exterior appearance is imposing and the interior compartments for reading, lecturing, educational, athletic and entertainment purposes are complete. F. S. Livingood, Esq., has been president since 1886; James H. Edwards, secretary since 1889. Special efforts were made to increase membership in 1909, with great success.

W. C. T. U.—In 1884, Frances E. Willard visited Reading in behalf of the Women's Christian



HOME FOR FRIENDLESS CHILDREN, READING



PLAY GROUNDS—HOME FOR FRIENDLESS CHILDREN, READING

Temperance Union and through her influence a society was formed which has been kept up since. The members number 360. In 1904 a granite drinking fountain was erected on the north side of Penn Square in memory of Miss Willard.

The Boys' Brigade was originally started in Scotland in 1883. The first company in the United States was organized in California in 1889, and the first at Reading in 1895. The object of the brigade is to advance Christianity amongst boys through military organization. All religious denominations are represented in it. Some years ago, there were at Reading eighteen companies, which constituted the 5th Regiment of Pennsylvania, and the total membership was 800 boys over eleven years of age. Each church supplied the equipment for its respective companies. Recently, however, the enthusiasm has subsided and the regiment has dwindled to two companies connected with the First Baptist Church, numbering about 125 members.

P. & R. Y. M. C. A.—On March 15, 1896, ten men met at the home of Samuel Monasmith in response to a call from Edward A. Homan to discuss the question of engaging in religious work among their fellow employees of the P. & R. Railway Company, and of providing a place where influences and surroundings would prove morally and physically beneficial.

Through the kindness of George F. Bacr, Esq., then president of the Reading Iron Company, the building and grounds familiarly known as "Green-Willow Park" (on Eighth street, just beyond Green) were set aside for the use of the new organization, which became the P. & R. Railway Department, Young Men's Christian Association.

The purpose of the Association was to provide an attractive place for the intellectual, social, physical and spiritual welfare of the employees and it has been productive of beneficent results to all such individuals who have come under its influence. The Association is controlled by a Committee of Management, elected annually by the members.

Any male employee, or male member of his family, in the service of the Reading Railway, Reading Iron Company, or affiliated lines of service, resident in or near, or running into Reading, not less than sixteen years of age, may become a member. On March 1, 1909, there were 524 members, including men of all creeds.

E. J. Dunlap became the first secretary in March, 1898. He was succeeded by James W. Leach in September, 1902; by Henry E. W. Simon in January, 1905; and by Edwin R. Gobrecht on Oct. 1, 1908, who served efficiently until March 31, 1909, when he resigned to become the general secretary of the Y. M. C. A. at Empire, Panama Canal Zone, under the auspices of the Panama Canal Commission.

VARIETY OF ASSOCIATIONS.—In order to show the great variety of the associations at Reading,

they have been presented in the following classification. They are indeed numerous and it is apparent from the extent of the variety that very few of the citizens are not connected with any of them. No attempt has been made to give the membership; and the compiler can not even pretend to have given the names of all the associations.

Agricultural

Athletic and Sporting

Baseball
Basket-ball
Bicycle
Boating
Bowling
Foot-ball

Golf
Gunning
Gymnastic
Quoiting
Tennis

Charitable

Associated Charities
Home for Friendless Children
Home for Widows and Single Women
Hope Rescue Mission
Hospitals, Reading, Homoeopathic, St. Joseph's

Humane
Reading Benevolent
Reading Relief
W. C. T. U.
Woman's Employment
Y. M. C. A.
Y. W. C. A.

Financial

Banks9
B. & S. Associations2

Trust Companies5

Historical

Historical Society of Berks County

Medical

Berks County Medical
Reading Medical

Berks County Homoeopathic
Reading Dental

Military

Baptist Boys' Brigade
Reading Artillerists (Company A, 4th Regt., N. G. P.)

Reading Rifles (Company I, 4th Regt., N. G. P.)

Miscellaneous50

Musical—Instrumental

Amphion's Musical Club
Big Six Drum Corps
Cadet Band
Colonial Band
Drexel's Orchestra
Fahrbach's Orchestra
Germania Orchestra
Italian Band
Ladies' Symphony Orchestra

Liberty Drum Corps
Military Drum Corps
Philharmonic Band
Polish Band
Ringgold Band
Schuylkill Drum Corps
White Eagle Band

Musical—Vocal

Harmonic Maennerchor
Reading Choral Society

Reading Liederkrantz

Patriotic

Daughters of American Revolution

Conrad Weiser Branch of D. A. R.

Political

Americus Club
Eleventh Ward Democratic Club
Fifth Ward Democratic Club
Jackson Democratic Club
Lincoln Republicans
McKinley Club

Northeast Democratic Association
Northeast Republican League
Sixth Ward Democratic Club
Southeast Republican League

Protective

Reading Underwriters

Volunteer Fire Companies13



Religious

All the different denominations have societies of a literary, sociable or charitable nature, numbering about one hundred.

Secret and Beneficial

American Protection Association	6	Knights of Labor	32
American Mechanics.....	10	Knights of the Maccabees	3
Elks		Knights of Malta	3
F. and A. M.....	11	Knights of Mystic Chain	5
F. O. E.		Knights of Pythias	5
Foresters of America		Modern Woodmen	2
G. A. R.....	2	Odd Fellows	7
German Order of Harugari	2	P. O. S. of A.	17
Heptasophs		P. O. of Americans... 4	
Knights of Friendship.. 7		Red Men	11
Knights of Golden Eagle	16	Roman Catholic	25
		Royal Arcanum	3
		Temperance	4
		Temple Club	

Social

Alumni		Nursery Literary Association	
Berkshire Country Club		Reading Reading Club	
Combine Club		West End Club	
Elm Leaf Club		Woman's Club	
Ivy Leaf Club		Wyomissing Club	
Letter Carriers'			

GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIALS

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Under the provisions of the Act of May 19, 1874, the State was apportioned into senatorial and representative districts. By this apportionment, the city of Reading was made a separate district for representatives, and authorized to elect two members. Previously the county, including the county-seat, was one district and the Assemblymen chosen from the city are therefore included with the county officials. The following persons were representatives from Reading:

Name	Term
Amos B. Wanner	1875-76
Jacob Miller	1875-78
Jeremiah Boone	1877-80
George McFarlan	1879-82
John S. Wagner	1881-82
Asa G. W. Smith	1883-86
Henry D. Green	1883-86
Spencer H. Smith	1887-88
James L. Douglas	1887-88
Allen S. Beck	1889-92
Samuel D. Missimer	1889-92
John R. Laucks	1893-94
John B. Goodhart	1893-94
Edward H. Luden	1895-98
David West	1895-98
Daniel K. Hoch	1899-1902
Harry E. Drase	1899-1902
W. Frank Mohr	1903-06
James B. Gabriel	1903-06
W. Wayne Weber	1907-08
John W. Morrison	1907-08
Richard W. F. Reuther	1909-10
Robert G. Bushong	1909-10

READING OFFICIALS

Town.—The local government at Reading from 1748 to 1783 was that commonly incident to a township for the regulation of road affairs. Until 1760, it was included in Alsace township; then it was established into a separate district.

Borough.—On Sept. 12, 1783, the town was incorporated into a borough, and the people were invested with enlarged powers for local affairs, which related chiefly to the streets and the public peace. Provision was made for the annual election of two burgesses, four assistants (who with the chief burgess constituted the council), high constable, town clerk, two supervisors and two assessors. The charter continued the same, excepting several modifications about elections.

City.—The borough was incorporated into a city on March 16, 1847. The Act preserved the wards previously created: Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest and Spruce, and it provided for the election of one select and one common councilman from each ward by the electors, the former for three years and the latter for one year; for the annual election of a mayor, treasurer, and three auditors; for the election of select and common councilmen from the several wards, the former for three years and the latter for one year; and it provided further for the annual appointment by councils of a solicitor, street regulator, surveyor, two street commissioners, market commissioner, high constable, and scavenger, and presidents and clerks of councils. It created two districts for aldermen (Penn street being the dividing line), with two aldermen for each district, having similar term of office and powers as justice of the peace; and the day of election was fixed for the third Friday of March.

The Act was modified March 13, 1861, and among other things provided by this second charter the terms of mayor and treasurer were extended to two years, and of auditor to three years; and it was again modified April 26, 1864, when a third charter was provided, changing the day of election to the second Friday of February, and increasing the term of common councilmen to two years, one-half of the number to be chosen every two years alternately.

The general Act of May 23, 1874, accepted by the people as a fourth charter, made a number of changes in the local government of Reading. The day of election was changed to the third Tuesday of February. Each ward became entitled to an alderman for five years, and a constable and assessor for three years. It substituted a controller in the place of the auditors, with a term of two years; and increased the term of engineer and solicitor to two years. All the common councilmen were to be elected every two years.

A general Act was passed May 23, 1889, for cities of the third class (which included Reading), and the terms were made as follows: Mayor, treasurer, controller, three assessors and engineer, three years; solicitor, two years; select councilmen, four years, and common councilmen, two years. The Act of May 16, 1901, increased the term of solicitor to three years.

Wards.—The first sub-division of Reading was made in 1817 for election purposes. The divisions were two, North ward and South ward, with Penn street as the dividing line. In 1840, it was subdivided into four wards, Northeast, Southeast, Northwest and Southwest, with Penn street and Sixth street as the dividing lines. And in 1844, a fifth ward was established called Spruce, comprising that part of Reading which lay between the Schuylkill and the Philadelphia & Reading railroad south of Spruce street.

In 1861, the names of the wards were changed to numerals: Spruce ward to First; Southwest to Second; Southeast to Third; Northeast to Fourth; and Northwest to Fifth. In 1864, the city was divided into nine wards. In 1876, two wards were added, the Tenth ward having been taken from the Second (constituting that portion lying east of Tenth street) and the Eleventh from the Ninth, constituting that portion lying north of Buttonwood street. In November, 1885, two additional wards were created out of parts of the Eleventh ward, the Twelfth constituting the portion between Greenwich and Windsor streets, and the Thirteenth constituting the portion north of Windsor. In November, 1892, two additional wards were created out of parts of the Sixth and the Seventh wards, the Fourteenth constituting that portion of the Seventh north of the Lebanon Valley railroad, and also that portion of the Sixth north of the Lebanon Valley railroad and east of Second street and Centre avenue; and the Fifteenth constituting the remaining portion of the Sixth, north of the Lebanon Valley railroad. And in November, 1894, the Sixteenth was created out of that portion of the Eighth which lay east of Eleventh street, and that portion of the Tenth east of Thirteenth street.

The Act of March 23, 1889, provided for representation from the wards in councils as follows: In select, one member for four years; in common, two members for two years until the city came to comprise fifteen wards, when the representation in common should become one member.

Elective Officials.—The following officials are elected by the electors of the entire city every three years at the municipal election on the third Tuesday in February: Mayor, controller, treasurer, and three assessors; and the following by the electors of the sixteen respective wards: select councilmen for four years and common councilmen for two years.

Appointive Officials.—The following are appointed:

By the mayor: Chief of police, four sergeants, sixty-five patrolmen, two operators of the police telegraph, two turnkeys, two patrol drivers, electrician, police clerk, commissioner of markets and city property, and scavenger, all subject to approval of councils.

By council: City clerk (four years); four water commissioners (four years); city engineer (three years); city solicitor (three years); five members

board of health, who select two physicians (indefinite period); four common commissioners (four years); four commissioners of public works (four years); superintendents, clerks, assistants, etc., for the several departments. Matron appointed since March, 1898.

Officials for Wards.—Officials are elected at the municipal election in February by the voters of each ward: Alderman (term five years); constable (three years); and assessor (three years); besides the representatives in the select and common councils, and in the school board.

Officials for Precincts.—All the wards of Reading, excepting the Fourth, are divided into precincts, numbering altogether fifty. Each of these precincts is an election district, and annually, on the third Tuesday in February, the voters elect a judge, two inspectors and a registry assessor. The Fourth ward constitutes an election district by itself; as to this district, there is no registry assessor, the ward assessor performing the duties of that office also.

BURGESSES

The Act of Sept. 12, 1783, provided for the annual election in May of two burgesses and four assistants, the first appointees until May 1, 1784, having been: burgesses, Daniel Levan and William Scull; assistants, Peter Nagle, John Spohn, Benjamin Spyker, Jr., and James May.

A complete list of the burgesses from 1783 to 1847 was not obtainable. After diligent search the names of the following persons who officiated were discovered (no minutes between 1786-89, 1791-92, 1795-96-97-98):

Name	Term
Daniel Levan and William Scull	1783
Charles Biddie and John Mears	1784
James Diemer and Jacob Winey	1785
James May and William Green	1790
Christian Barrenstine and John Otto	1793-94
Jacob Bright	1799-1800
Henry Hahn and Peter Stichter	1803
Jacob Bright (Brecht) and John Strohecker	1804
Fred'k Fritz	1807-08
Nicholas Dick	1810
John Spayd	1815-22
William Witman	1822-25
Peter Nagle, Jr.	1825-31, 1832-33, 1837-39
Henry A. Muhlenberg	1831-32
George M. Keim	1833-34
Anthony Bickel	1834-35
Thomas Keppel	1835-36
William Schoener	1836-37, 1839-43
William High	1843-44
William Betz	1844-47

MAYORS

Name	Term
Peter Filbert	1847-48
William H. Keim	1848-49
George Getz	1849-53
Daniel R. Clymer	1853-54
John S. Richards	1854-55
William M. Baird	1855-56
Joel B. Wanner	1856-57
A. Jordan Swartz	1857-58
Benneville Keim	1858-61
Joel B. Wanner	1861-63

Joseph S. Hoyer	1863-65
Nathan M. Eisenhower	1865-67
William H. Gernand	1867-71
Samuel C. Mayer	1871-73
Charles F. Evans	1873-79
Henry A. Tyson	1879-81
William G. Rowe	1881-85
James K. Getz	1885-87
James R. Kenney	1887-90
Thomas P. Merritt	1890-93
William F. Shanaman	1893-96
Jacob Weidel	1896-99
Adam H. Leader	1899-1902
Edward Yeager	1902-05
Edwin R. Gerber	1905-08
William Rick	1908-11

CHIEFS OF POLICE

Name	Term
John L. Morris	1847-49; 1858-59
Henry Seitzinger	1849-51
John H. Nagle	1851-54
Reuben Goodhart	1854-55
William Y. Lyon	1855-57; 1860-61
Samuel Folk	1857-58
Henry Wunder	1859-60
Howard L. Miller	1861-63
Jacob B. Mast	1863-65
Joseph Deysher	1865-67
William McNall	1867-71
Peter Cullen	1871-79; 1893-96
Daniel Housum	1879-81
Raymond B. Lewis	1881-85
Frederick H. Fleck	1885-87
Mahlon Shaaber	1887-90
Richard M. Whitman	1890-93; 1902-08
John F. Albrecht	1896-98
Jacob Etzel	1898-99
Milton J. Miller	1899-1902
Charles E. Auman	1908-11

TREASURERS

Name	Term
George Feather	1847-53
George R. Frill	1853-56
Daniel S. Holl	1856-57
George W. Bruckman	1857-58
Michael Kraemer	1858-59
Peter Cleaver	1859-61
Peter Shaneman	1861-63
William Heidenreich	1863-71
John E. Arthur	1871-85
Horatio Jones	1885-87
John Obold	1887-93
John M. Bertolet	1893-96
Henry G. Young	1896-98
John Y. Hoffman	1898-1902
Walter M. Tysen	1902-08
Edward H. Filbert	1908-11

AUDITORS

Name	Term
Lewis J. Hanold	1847-48
Nathan Eisenhower	1847-49; 1859-61
John L. Reifsnnyder	1847-49
Frank B. Miller	1848-49
Jacob B. Smith	1849-50
Z. H. Maurer	1849-51; 1854-55
Jeremiah Bitting	1849-50
John Darrah	1850-52
George Heckman	1850-51
James L. Rightmyer	1851-52
John F. Evans	1851-54
John F. Moers	1852-53
A. W. Nagle	1852-53; 1854-55
John Pfeiffer	1854-54
William Briner	1853-54
John J. Tyson	1854-55

Peter Cleaver	1855-56
William Geiger	1855-56
John A. Banks	1855-56
Matthias Rabb	1856-57
William Henry	1856-57
Albert G. Green	1856-57
William Umbenhower	1857-58
Wharton Morris	1857-58; 1861-62
James Van Horn	1858-59
Amos B. Wanner	1858-59
John O. Schoener	1858-59
Peres Hain	1859-60
Charles Scull	1859-60
Henry Eppihimer	1860-61
James A. Fasig	1860-61
B. Frank Haas	1861-63
Charles F. Smith	1861-64
Lewis Briner	1862-65
Henry Kerper	1863-66
Isaac R. Fisher	1864-67
John S. Aulenbach	1865-68
William M. Goodman	1866-69
John E. Arthur	1867-71
Hiester M. Nagle	1868-71
W. Murray Weidman	1869-72
Levi H. Liess	1871-74
John Keppelman	1872-73
Jacob Lenhart	1872-75
Isaac T. James	1873-75
Henry M. Keim	1874-75

CONTROLLERS

Name	Term
William Briner	1875-76
Chester N. Farr, Jr.	1876-79
Henry A. Tyson	1879-81
William A. Runkel	1881-88
Joseph Housum	1888-92
J. Lawrence Getz	1892-93
Samuel R. Kerper	1893-96
Walter B. Koch	1896-99
Adam H. Leader	1899-1908
Charles L. Moll	1908-11
Obadiah B. Dorward	1908-11

WATER BOARD.—The city was divided into four districts for the election of commissioners of water by an Act passed March 21, 1865. Sixth street and Penn street were made the dividing lines; and city councils were required to elect four persons, one from each district. Of the first board, two were to hold office for two years and the remaining two for four years. Thereafter every two years, councils have elected two members for four years. The office is without compensation. The board is authorized to employ a superintendent and workmen for carrying on the department. The following have been the commissioners:

COMMISSIONERS

First District

Name	Term
David A. Stout	1865-73
Solomon L. Snyder	1873-77
George K. Lavan	1877-80
Matthias Menzel	1880-81
Charles K. Hillegas	1881-83
Jacob Holl	1883-90
Frank A. Tyson	1891-98
I. S. Fry	1898-1901
Edward Elbert	1901*

Second District

John Malzberger	1865-67
Thomas L. Addison	1867-73; 1877-85

Aug. C. Greth	1873-77
Charles Melcher	1877-77
Albert A. Heizmann	1885-92
Jesse Orr	1892-92
Abner S. Deysher	1892-93
Frederic P. Heller	1893*—

Third District

Jacob Bushong	1865-67
Jacob C. Hoff	1867-71
William R. Melvain	1871-83
Isaac McHose	1883-87
James Rick	1887-91
Matthan Harbster	1891-1907
A. Ellsworth Leinbach	1907 —

Fourth District

Joseph Mishler	1865-67
Levi J. Smith	1867-75; 1879-83
Addy Gehry	1875-79
F. S. Jacobs	1883-91
George H. Felix	1891-1904
Solomon H. Close	1904*—

SUPERINTENDENTS

Name	Term
Marks B. Scull	1865-82
William B. Harper	1882-92
William B. Albright	1892-95
Emil L. Nuebling	1895-1909

PARK COMMISSIONERS.—The board of common commissioners was established by an ordinance passed Sept. 28, 1887, and the councils in joint convention were authorized to elect four commissioners, for four years, one from each section, with Sixth and Penn streets as the dividing lines. At the first election, the two having the highest number of votes, and the two having the lowest, were to be declared as elected, and one of each was to be elected for four years, and one of each for two years; and thereafter every two years two commissioners were to be elected for four years. The election was to take place on the first Monday of September. The following persons have been members of the board; and the board was empowered to appoint a superintendent and employ laborers.

Name	Term
George F. Baer	1888-1910
Walter S. Davis	1888-1910
Thomas P. Merritt	1888-92
David F. Lotz	1888-92
David E. Benson	1892-1902
Philip Bissinger	1892-98
Jacob A. Strohecker	1898-1900†
James L. Douglas	1902-10

PARK SUPERINTENDENTS

Name	Term
William H. Burke	1887-1906
William I. Hoch	1906-10

ASSESSORS

From 1874 to 1889, the voters of each ward elected an assessor for three years to assess real and personal property for purposes of taxation. Then, under the Act of May 23, 1889, cities of the third class were authorized to elect three persons as a board of city assessors to serve from the first

Monday in April for three years. This board has accordingly from that time assessed the property in Reading for city purposes, and city councils have fixed the rate of taxation according to the demands for revenue. Ward assessors are still elected, however, at the municipal election every three years, for county purposes. The following have been the assessors:

Name	Term
Frederick Stephan	1890-93
William W. Werner	1890-93
Henry A. Rush	1890-93
Christian C. Frantz	1893-96
Daniel Beidler	1893-99
Adam H. Leader	1893-96
Abraham H. Reeser	1896-99
Aaron H. Dunkle	1896-99
Charles F. Yeity	1899-1902
Henry S. Young	1899-1902
Mahlon Fies	1899-1908
Howard O. Sharman	1902-05
J. Peter Koch	1902-08
William Luppold	1905-11
Charles J. Hoff	1907-10
Charles M. Brissel	1909-12

BUILDING INSPECTORS

The office of building inspector was established by ordinance passed on Jan. 5, 1889, and the mayor was authorized to appoint a suitable person for a term of three years. The following persons have officiated:

Name	Term
Joseph A. Heine	1891-92
Monroe A. Moser	1892-93
Abraham Seiverd	1893-96
John S. Wagner	1896-1902
Harry A. Heckman	1902-08
Oscar D. Henne	1908-11

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

A board of public works was established by city councils Nov. 30, 1895, for the purpose of supervising the grading, paving, repairing and regulating of the streets, and of controlling the house sewerage, pumping and disposal system; which was to comprise four commissioners, who were to be appointed by city councils, the appointees to be selected from the electors of the four districts of Reading, and the dividing lines of the districts to be Chestnut, Walnut and Douglass streets. This board has officiated since that time, having directed its attention more particularly toward the establishment of sewers for surface and house drainage, and of paved streets. The following have been members of this board:

First District

Name	Term
Henry Eppihimer	1896-98
James L. Douglas	1898-1900
Charles E. Leippe	1900-02
John M. Archer	1902-04
Andrew J. Fink, Jr.	1904-10

Second District

Jerome L. Boyer	1896-98
Charles W. Potteiger	1898-1906
Walter Essick	1906-10

* Continued by reelection.

† Died Feb. 27, 1909, and William K. Leithiser appointed successor.

Third District

George Eltz	1896-1906
Frank A. Schofer	1906-10

Fourth District

Ferdinand Goetz	1896-1901
Edwin R. Gerber	1901-05
Charles H. Hunter	1905-10

SELECT COUNCILMEN
UNDER CHARTERS OF 1847 AND 1861

Northeast Ward

Name	Term
John Y. Cunnius	1847-51
Peter F. Nagle	1851-54
Joseph Henry	1854-57
Joseph Ritter	1857-60
George Foos	1860-63
Levi J. Smith	1863-65

Northwest Ward

Hiester H. Muhlenberg	1847-49
Joel Ritter	1849-52
Tobias Barto	1852-55
Ivens Benson	1855-58
Francis Bright	1858-61
Jacob C. Hoff	1861-64
Jacob Bushong	1864-65

Southeast Ward

Henry Nagle	1847-50; 1854-56
Frederick Printz	1850-53
Joshua Keely	1853-54
Hiram C. Ritter	1856-59
Robert Caldwell	1859-62
David Levan	1862-65

Southwest Ward

Richard Boone	1847-49
Charles H. Hunter	1849-52
Augustus Boas	1852-55
Samuel Frees	1855-58
Frederick S. Boas	1858-61
Isaac McHose	1861-64
Peter Hoch	1864-65

Spruce Ward

John Darrah	1847-49
Thomas Hill	1849-53
Henry W. Raudenbush	1853-56
John D. Morris	1856-62
Samuel Robinson	1862-65

UNDER CHARTERS OF 1864 AND 1874

First Ward

Name	Term
Amos H. Deysher	1865-68
John D. Morris	1868-71
Matthan Harbster	1871-74
Jesse Orr	1874-80
Glauser Miller	1880-88
Matthew Rhoda	1888-1908
Frederick H. Robitzer	1908-12

Second Ward

Zeno Hoffmaster	1865-69
Henry C. Hain	1869-72
Henry Seiders	1872-75
Levi Richards	1875-77
Simeon S. Sands	1877-80
Samuel Robinson	1880-83
Michael McCullough	1883-87
Israel S. Fry	1887-88
Daniel Auchenbach	1888-90
John H. Thamm	1890-94
William R. Madden	1894-1902
Joseph McCullough	1902-06
James M. Cummings	1906-10

Third Ward

Adam Kutz	1865-67
John S. Schroeder	1867-70
Calvin Goodman	1870-71
Charles S. Herb	1873-76
William G. McGowan	1876-79
Jacob Goodman	1879-82
Richard S. Dunkel	1882-85
Jeremiah G. Mohn	1885-87
Charles B. Wells	1887-89
Samuel G. Heinly	1889-90
Henry C. Schroeder	1890-94
Jacob B. Stout	1894-1900
John R. Mast	1900-12

Fourth Ward

Peter Hoch	1865-67
J. Timothy Jackson	1867-70
George W. Morgan	1870-73
James L. Douglas	1873-76
William S. Monver	1876-79
James Lord	1879-82
Albert A. Heizmann	1882-85
John A. Rigg	1885-94
Dr. H. L. Johnson	1894-1902
Dr. F. W. Frankhouser	1902-06
E. B. Slichter	1906-10

Fifth Ward

Frederick Lauer	1865-71
William Call	1871-74
F. P. Heller	1883-86
Benjamin Lichtenhaler	1877-80
Harrison Harner	1880-83
Frederic P. Heller	1883-86
John R. Miller	1886-88
William H. Bitting	1888-1912

Sixth Ward

George W. Garst	1865-70
George W. Bushong	1870-76
George Rader	1876-82
Levi J. R. Krick	1882-87
Edward Yeager	1887-88
Francis M. Henning	1888-89
William F. Shanaman	1889-90
John H. Keppelman	1890-98
William W. Wunder	1898-1910

Seventh Ward

Levi J. Smith	1865-66
George J. Eckert	1866-69
Frederick W. Lauer	1869-72
Henry R. Hawman	1872-75
George Foos	1875-77
John H. Maltzberger	1877-80
F. Snyder Jacobs	1880-83
J. G. Leimbach	1883-90
F. F. Bressler	1890-92
Dr. G. Benton Beaver	1892-96
Howard L. Boas	1896-1906
Ira W. Stratton	1906-10

Eighth Ward

Joseph Henry	1865-66
Eli S. Fox	1866-67
Franklin S. Bernhart	1867-69
Charles Brengiser	1869-72
Henry S. Eckert	1872-75
Joseph Ganser	1875-80
George W. Bruckman	1880-83
J. A. Strohecker	1883-86
Solomon S. Kind	1886-90
William B. Laucks	1890-91
William H. Wetherhold	1894-98
John H. Close	1898-1910



Ninth Ward

Frederick Printz	1865-68
Isaac R. Fisher	1868-71
Adon Kline	1871-77
Jacob B. Mast	1877
John Stark	1877-80
Dominic Kremp	1880-86
John Sauer	1886-88
Charles F. Fink	1888-90
Joseph Goldsmith	1890-92; 1900-04
George W. Romig	1892-1900; 1904-12

Tenth Ward

Owen S. Swartz	1876-82
John L. Lawrence	1882-89
Peter S. Holl	1889-98
John A. Rauon	1898-1902
Edward Taenzer	1902-05
Harry C. Weber	1905-10

Eleventh Ward

William Geiger	1876-79
William H. Kelly	1879-82
Hayward H. Heckman	1882-87
George B. McC. Hess	1887-96
Harry J. Wentzel	1896-1900
Elmer E. Hess	1900-04
Jacob F. Hollenbacher	1904-06
John H. Stoner	1906-12

Twelfth Ward

Harrison S. Hartman	1886-88
Samuel Millmore	1888-90
Amos H. Beard	1890-1910

Thirteenth Ward

M. Leroy Wenger	1886-90
John S. Wagner	1890-92
Charles H. Ramsey	1892-95
W. Abbott Whitman	1895-1900; 1904-08
Edwin K. Mersinger	1900-04
Irwin S. Riegel	1904-12

Fourteenth Ward

Isaac W. Hull	1893-1906
John B. Raser	1906-10

Fifteenth Ward

Henry S. Young	1893-96
P. Monroe Krick	1896-1904
A. E. Keeport	1904-08
William M. Smeck	1908-12

Sixteenth Ward

Paul D. Milholland	1895-97
George B. Clouser	1897-1902
Lyman H. Ruth	1902-06
Richard Hull	1906-10

PRESIDENTS OF SELECT COUNCIL

Name	Term
Henry Nagle	1847-50; 1854-55
Joel Ritter	1850-52
Peter F. Nagle	1852-54
Samuel Frees	1855-58
Hiram C. Ritter	1858-59
John D. Morris	1859-60; 1861-62
Frederick S. Boas	1860-61
Jacob C. Hoff	1862-64
Jacob Bushong	1864-65
Levi J. Smith	1865-66
George W. Garst	1866-67; 1868-70
Frederick Lauer	1867-68
George W. Morgan	1870-71; 1872-73
Frederick W. Lauer	1871-72
Henry S. Eckert	1873-75
James L. Douglas	1875-76
Frederic P. Heller	1876-77
Jesse Orr	1877-79
Joseph Ganser	1879-80
William H. Kelly	1880-82
F. Snyder Jacobs	1882
Levi J. R. Krick	1882-83

John L. Lawrence	1883-84
Michael McCollough	1884-85
Hayward H. Heckman	1885-86
John A. Rigg	1886-89
George B. McC. Hess	1889-92
George W. Romig	1892-94
Peter S. Holl	1894-95
Amos H. Beard	1895-96
Isaac W. Hull	1896-97
Jacob B. Stout	1897-98
George B. Clouser	1898-99
Matthew Rhoda	1899-1900
William H. Bitting	1900-01
Howard L. Boas	1901-03
John H. Close	1903-09
Ira W. Stratton	1909-10

CLERKS OF SELECT COUNCIL

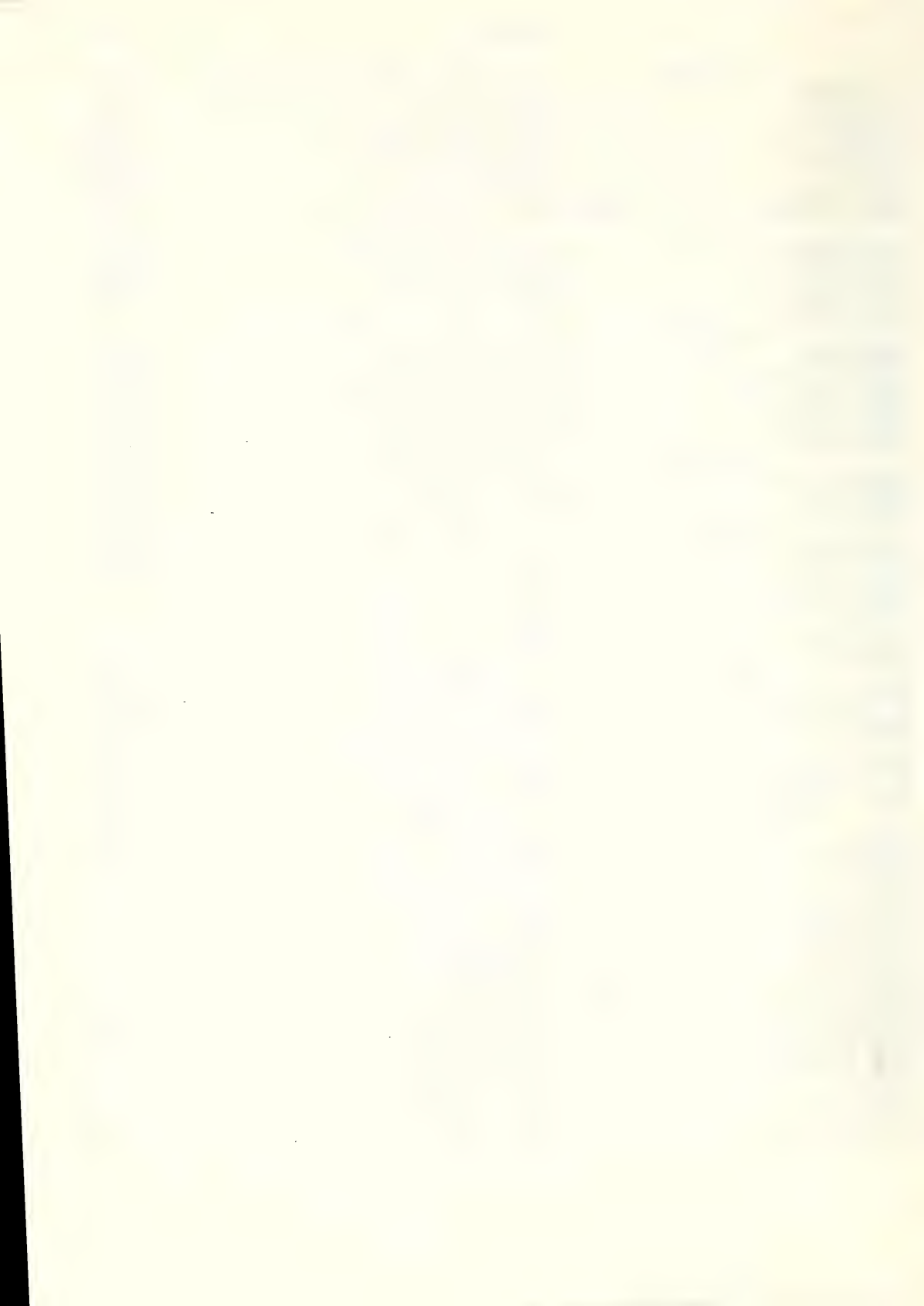
Name	Term
John L. Rightmyer	1847-51
James L. Rightmyer	1851-52
Nathan M. Eisenhower	1852-61
A. Lucius Henneshotz	1861-62
Adam Waid	1862-64
B. Frank Haas	1864-73
Edward A. Howell	1873-79
John H. Keppelman	1879-84
George H. Felix	1884-88
Cyrus T. Fox	1888-89
I. Conley Fetter	1889-95
Edwin L. Lindemuth	1895-98
John H. Thamm	1898-1901
Lincoln S. Ramsey	1901-04; 1908-10
James J. Burns	1904-08
Harry R. Zimmerman	1909-10

COMMON COUNCILMEN

UNDER CHARTERS OF 1847 AND 1861

Northeast Ward

Name	Term
Jacob Malsberger	1847-51; 1853-55
Daniel Spang	1847-49
Henry Herbold	1849-50
Christian Eiler	1850-51
William Fricker	1851-52
Joseph Henry	1851-53
Joseph Ritter	1852-53
Morris Rambo	1853-55; 1859-60
Francis Roland	1853-55; 1856-57
George Cutler	1855-56
David Gross	1855-56; 1860-61
Henry Hahn	1855-56
Henry Heckman	1856-57
George A. Struben	1856-57
Henry A. M. Filbert	1857-59
Jacob B. Mast	1857-59
Christian Schultz	1857-58
Isaac R. Fisher	1858-59
Henry Crouse	1859-60
George Foos	1859-60
Daniel Kline	1859-61
Henry P. Herb	1860-62
Jacob Donahower	1861-62
Ferd. S. Ritter	1860-62; 1863-64
William Umbenhower	1861-63
William Heidenreich	1862-63
Joseph S. Hoyer	1862-63
Levi J. Smith	1862-63
Peter Tinsman	1863-64
James Donagan	1863-64
James T. Reber	1863-64
Frederick R. Fritz	1864-65
Henry Miller	1864-65
George K. Lavan	1864-65
Amos B. Wanner	1864-65



Northwest Ward

Lewis Briner	1847-49
Herman Beard	1847-49
William Henry	1849-50
Peres Hain	1849-50
Charles F. S. Fisher	1850-51
Levi Malsberger	1850-51
Adam Moyer	1851-54
William Yeich	1851-53
M. A. Bertolo	1853-54; 1856-58
Charles Seiders	1854-55
D. Bright Yerger	1854-56
Jacob C. Hoff	1855-56
Henry Riegel	1856-57
Jacob Bushong	1857-58
William Rhoads, Sr.	1857-58
Jacob Boyer	1858-59
Franklin S. Bickley	1858-59
William Krick	1858-59; 1862-63; 1864-65
D. Llewellyn Beaver	1859-60
George de B. Keim	1859-60
Adam Plank	1859-61
George Frees	1860-61
Samuel U. Hollenbach	1860-61
Frank M. Cooley	1861-62
Amos W. Potteiger	1861-62; 1863-64
Benjamin Weiss	1861-62
Charles Seiders	1862-63
Augustus S. Thompson	1862-63
Jacob Bushong	1863-64
Casper Reifsnyder	1863-65
Jacob Mishler	1864-65

Southeast Ward

John Goodman	1847-49
Jacob Young	1847-50
Thomas Barret	1849-50
Daniel Borkert	1850-51; 1864-65
Matthias Babbs	1850-51
D. M. Eisenhower	1851-52
Frederick H. Miller	1851-52
Matthias Eisenbeis	1852-53
Jacob Geiger	1852-53
Hiram C. Ritter	1853-55
Robert Caldwell	1853-54
Joseph Rambo	1854-55
John Shaaber	1855-56
Solomon L. Snyder	1855-56; 1862-63
Aaron Steinbach	1855-56
Jacob Geiger	1856-57
Adam Kutz	1856-57
William S. Young	1856-58; 1861-62
Michael Rightmyer	1857-58
David A. Stout	1857-58
Nicholas A. Felix	1858-59
Isaiah Jennings	1858-59
William Harden	1858-59
James M. Roland	1859-60
Amos Seidel	1859-60
John Yerger	1859-59
Daniel Beyerle	1860-61
Joseph Shearer	1860-61
George W. Ubil	1860-61
William Eisenbise	1861-62
William S. Ritter	1861-62
Charles Brendiser	1862-63
Andrew Davis	1862-63
Jacob Goodman	1863-64
Henry Seidel	1863-64
John Tigh	1863-64
Sebastian Lieber	1864-65
Jacob Ringgold	1864-65

Southwest Ward

Isaac T. James	1847-48
Samuel Frees	1847-50
Philip K. Miller	1847-50
Reuben Haus	1848-50

Nathan M. Eisenhower	1850-51
William Peacock	1850-51
John Malsberger	1850-51; 1854-55
M. H. Nunnmacher	1851-52
Augustus C. Hoff	1851-52
N. V. R. Hunter	1851-52
Daniel Housum	1852-54
Peter D. Getz	1852-53; 1857-58
Howard L. Miller	1853-54
Adam Waid	1853-54; 1859-60
George Heckman	1854-55
Cyrus J. Hunter	1854-55
John Fink	1855-57
Peter R. Lotz	1855-56
Peter Hoch	1856-57; 1858-60; 1862-64
Philip Lotz	1856-57
Isaac Bertolo	1857-58
Reuben Goodhart	1857-58
J. Frederick Moers	1858-59
David Rhein	1858-59
Henry Epiphimer	1859-60
William Call	1860-62
J. Timothy Jackson	1860-61
Frederick S. Hunter	1861-62
Arnold Mellert	1861-62; 1863-64
William B. Hertzell	1862-63
John H. Kelly	1862-63
James L. Douglas	1863-65
William I. Clous	1864-65
Hiram S. Getz	1864-65

Spruce Ward

George W. Bruckman	1847-48
Jacob H. Boyer	1848-49
Abraham S. Whitman	1849-50
William Yeager	1849-50
William A. Wells	1850-51
Edmund Morris	1850-52
George Newkirk	1851-53
Samuel Spatts	1852-53
David E. Evans	1853-54
William Call	1853-55
John D. Morris	1854-56
Joseph A. McLean	1855-56
Jacob H. Deysher	1856-57
William L. Lotz	1856-57
Wm. B. Albright	1857-59; 1861-62
Lewis Hagenman	1857-58
Zeno Hoffmaster	1857-58; 1860-62
Wile Bright	1858-59
Martin Deysher	1858-60
Samuel Craig	1859-60; 1862-63
Smith P. Ubil	1859-61
Samuel M. Fillman	1860-62
Philip Albright	1862-63
John Hetrich	1862-65
Amos Deysher	1863-65
Redmond McManus	1863-64
Henry Seiders	1864-65

UNDER CHARTERS OF 1864 AND 1874

First Ward

Name	Term
Charles Ringel	1865-66
Marks Drumheller	1865-67
Enos M. Reazer	1866-68
Daniel B. Rhoads	1867-69
Solomon Brubaker	1868-70
Matthan Harbster	1869-71
William J. Frame	1870-72
D. Young Jones	1871-73
John F. Weitzel	1872-74; 1878-80
William A. C. Oaks	1873-75
Henry W. Corbit	1874-76
John Stieff	1875-80
Loui Richard	1875-78
George J. Kilmer	1875-76
Amos H. Deysher	1876-78



George H. Corbit	1876-78
Henry S. Gaul	1878-80
Glauser Miller	1878-80
G. M. D. Albertson	1880-82
William Morris	1880-82
William J. Bobst	1880-86
Charles Broschkowsky	1880-81
Amos Huyett	1881-84; 1885-86
B. Frank Kupp	1882-84
James E. Yoder	1882-84
Matthew Rhoda	1884-87
Albert Moore	1884-86
D. Elmer Dampman	1887-95
Theodore Dickinson	1886-87
Aaron E. Killmer	1887-89
Daniel A. Kreisher	1887-89
Charles N. Frame	1889-89
W. Harry Orr	1889-90
Morris E. Barber	1889-90
James B. Gabriel	1890-91
Wellington G. Woods	1891-93
William Templin	1895-1905
James A. Clark	1905-07
George J. Butter	1907-11

Second Ward

Mallory Geiger	1865-66
Henry Schroeder	1865-66
Michael McCullough	1865-69
Valentine Wilk	1866-68
William Eisenbeis	1866-68
William Denhard	1868-70
Jacob Harner, Jr.	1868-70
William Fix	1869-71
George W. Grant	1869-71
Henry Seiders	1870-72
George Field	1870-72
Fidel Weber	1871-73
Michael Hasson	1871-73
Gregory Heine	1872-76
James J. Driscoll	1872-74
Philip Y. Gilham	1873-75; 1882-84; 1885-86
George D. Boyer	1873-75
Edward A. Howell	1873-75
Wesley C. Hall	1874-78
George G. Hoffmaster	1875-76
Simeon S. Sands	1875-76
H. A. M. Obold	1876-78
Samuel D. Missimer	1876-78
Daniel Whitman	1876-78
Isaac B. Greenleaf	1876-78
William C. Becker	1878-80
Philip Leisz	1878-80
Joseph B. Reinhart	1878-80
Peter M. Snyder	1878-80
Paul Young	1878-80
John P. Miller	1880-82
Ellis L. Castor	1880-85
Marks Boyer	1880-82
Rufus Wolfskill	1880-82; 1898-99; 1900-02
William A. Thompson	1880-82
William Troop	1880-85
Isaac D. Whitman	1882-85
Thomas J. Dott	1882-85
Israel S. Fry	1885-86; 1890-94; 1896-98
H. A. Harner	1885-88
James M. Roland	1885-87
F. X. Wolf	1885-87
John Smith	1887-88
George Beyerle	1887-88
Charles W. Kieffer	1887-88
Frank A. Tyson	1888-90
Richard M. Whitman	1888-89
Henry Whitman	1888-89
William R. Henninger	1888-90
John H. Thamm	1889-90
Aaron P. Arnold	1890-94
Griffith W. Jones	1894-96

Reuben D. Boas	1902-06
James J. Flemming	1906-08
Irvin Cramp	1908-10

Third Ward

Isaac Levan	1865-66
Charles Melcher	1865-67
Michael Shultz	1866-68
Jacob Miller	1867-71
Calvin Goodman	1868-70
John H. Printz	1869-71
Charles B. Wells	1870-76
Frederick R. Fritz	1871-73
Charles S. Herb	1871-73
William Lott	1873-75
Daniel Beyerle	1873-75
William S. Ritter	1874-76
John G. Mohn	1875-76
David F. Lotz	1875-76; 1878-82
Charles Henninger	1875-76
Amos Miller	1876-78
George Mast	1876-78
William Dease	1876-78
Albert Babb	1876-78
Abraham R. Bechtel	1878-82
Conrad F. Kessler	1878-80
Isaac W. Levan	1878-80
Jacob Hillegas	1880-82
Edward O. Immel	1880-82
Albert C. Borgert	1882-85
David J. Greth	1882-83
Milford N. Ritter	1882-85
Frederick W. Lehman	1882-85
John S. Boas	1883-85
A. J. Fricker	1885-86
William High	1885-86
Levi W. Coller	1885-86
Thomas Leinbach	1886-87
John H. Printz	1886-87
Cyrus G. Schultz	1886-87
Samuel M. Hartman	1886-88
Charles B. Wells	1886-87
Samuel D. Missimer	1887-89
Richard H. Pawling	1887-88
George W. Hassinger	1887-88
Samuel G. Icinly	1888-89; 1902-07
Richard H. Savage	1888-89
Henry M. Ahrens	1888-89
Monroe S. Eby	1889-90
Alfred L. Weitzel	1889-90
James Hangen	1889-91
Henry M. Heller	1889-90
Henry Dick	1890-91
Charles H. Fisher	1891-93
Oliver S. Geiger	1892-93
Peter J. L. McKinney	1893-97
James M. Morgan	1897-99
Fred H. Witman	1899-1902
Edward Fritz	1907-09
C. P. Pfaffman	1909-11

Fourth Ward

Henry Fry	1865-66
Daniel Spohn	1865-67; 1868-72
Edwin C. Hiester	1866-68
Harrison Maltzberger	1867-71
George L. Jenkins	1871-73
Adam Bard	1872-74
Abner K. Stauffer	1873-76; 1882-85
Thomas D. Stichter	1871-76
William S. Mouver	1875-76
Amos L. Boyer	1873-76
William H. Houck	1876-78
Henry D. High	1876-77
Joseph Shirey	1876-77
Davis P. Harden	1876-78
William H. Clous	1877-78
John Jones	1877-78

Benneville H. Brown	1878-80	Adam Frees	1868-70
Albert A. Heizmann	1878-80	Edward Frill	1870-72
Henry Koch	1878-80	John McKnight	1872-74
Prince R. Stetson	1878-80	Cornelius Stamm	1873-75
Horatio R. Trexler, Jr.	1880-82	Levi J. R. Krick	1874-76
Wellington M. Saylor	1880-82	Joseph S. Rigel	1875-76
Edwin A. Wilkenson	1880-82	William G. Rowe	1875-78
John H. Printz	1880-82	Charles Riek, Jr.	1875-76
Joshua K. Righter	1882-85	George M. Krick	1876-78
Calvin K. Whitner	1882-85	William G. Lash	1876-78
William Brandt	1882-85	Charles Miller	1876-78
James A. O'Reilly	1885-87	Jeremiah Y. Bechtel	1878-80
William A. Fink	1885-88; 1889-92; 1900-02	Benneville Hemmig	1878-80
Isaac Geiger	1885-86	William Keppelman	1878-80
Samuel Hantsch	1885-86	Charles Miller	1878-82
Harrison T. Witman	1886-87	Wm. G. Robinson	1880-82; 1883-84
Jeremiah S. Benner	1886-87	James Weitzel	1880-86
Milton H. Schnader	1887-88; 1889-90	Ferdinand Winter	1880-84
Charles W. Hendel	1887-88	Frederick B. Roe	1882-84
George W. Raudenbush	1888-89	George W. Crouse	1882-83
Henry A. Zieber	1888-89	C. Kaltenbach	1884-86
Amos H. Phillippi	1889-90	J. H. Schaeffer	1885-86
Dr. H. L. Johnson	1890-92	Alvin S. Schroeder	1885-86
Frank W. Eben	1892-94	John H. Keppelman	1886-90
William F. Reeser	1892-94	Edward Yeager	1886-87
Otto Mellert	1894-97	Howard E. Ahrens	1886-87
John M. Archer	1897-1900	Charles W. Bechtel	1886-87
Harvey C. Johnson	1902-06	William T. Snyder	1887-89
Charles H. Krouse	1906-10	W. Howard Wells	1887-88
		William F. Shanaman	1887-89
		Wellington M. Hiester	1888-90
		Howard O. Sharnian	1889-90; 1891-92
		Israel L. Groman	1889-92
		John S. Thompson	1892-94
		B. Franklin Fink	1892-93
		Michael Collier	1894-96
		R. B. Harris	1896-1900
		Theodore F. Hayman	1900-02
		Adolph Eichner	1902-06
		W. E. Mills	1906-07
		J. William Roe	1907-10

Fifth Ward

Jacob Lehman	1865-66
Levi Wunder	1865-67; 1869-71
Peter Brown	1866-68
Jacob Schwenk	1867-69
William I. Clous	1868-70
John F. Orth	1870-72; 1873-75
George W. Yeager	1871-73
Frederic P. Heller	1872-74
Harrison Harner	1873-75
J. Henry Cheetham	1874-76
Jeremiah H. Boone	1875-76
Charles Spangler	1875-76
William Call	1875-76
William Grauder	1876-80
William P. Reid	1876-80
John Kissinger	1876-80
John R. Bechtel	1876-78
John B. Goodhart	1878-80
Daniel Moser	1880-82
Thomas Seiders	1880-82
James K. Getz	1880-82
August C. Wertz	1880-82
John R. Miller	1882-85
William S. Monyer	1882-86
Thomas O. Yarrington, Jr.	1882-86
Frederick Shunk	1882-85
C. A. Golding	1885-86
John Strouse	1886-87; 1891-93
Alfred Franks	1886-87
Henry Loeb	1886-88; 1899-1901
William H. Biting	1887-88
George E. Haak	1887-88
Luther Schick	1888-89
Edward C. Eben	1888-90; 1897-99
Augustus Pottzeiger	1888-90
Edward Yeager	1889-90
James Cotterel	1890-91
Marion Larkin	1890-93
Samuel A. Buckley	1893-95
Edward W. Alexander	1895-97
Harrison Posey	1901-05
John S. Matthias	1905-11

Sixth Ward

George B. Connard	1865-66
Daniel Miller	1865-73
Aaron Getz	1866-68

Seventh Ward

William Brison	1865-68
Jacob Schmucker	1865-67
Henry R. Hawman	1867-69
Samuel C. Mayer	1868-70
Abner K. Stauffer	1869-71
William A. Medlar	1870-72
William Stoltz	1870-72
Lew Wanner	1871-73
Charles A. Saylor	1872-74
Edward Scull	1872-76
Charles H. Schaeffer	1873-75
Frank C. Smink	1874-76
Henry Bennethum	1875-76
Samuel Weitzel	1875-76
George J. Eckert	1876-78
J. Heyl Raser	1876-78
B. Frank Nagle	1876-78
William Reiff	1876-78
B. Frank Dettra	1878-80
Daniel Hou-um	1878-79
Joseph W. Richards	1878-80
George P. Zieber	1878-80
Jonathan G. Leinbach	1879-82
George L. Kestner	1880-82
Casper H. Lotz	1880-84
Wellington S. Levan	1880-82
Amos B. Wanner	1882-84
James P. Sellers	1882-84
John C. Hepler	1882-84; 1886-88; 1888-90
Lemon Buch	1884-86
E. S. Miller	1886-88
Harry Whiteside	1886
I. C. Dehart	1886-87
W. B. Moser	1886-87
John H. Ruth	1886-88

Thomas D. Bausher	1886-88
Thomas B. O'Brien	1888-90
George B. Clouser	1888-89
John Luigard	1888-91
Maurice A. Arnold	1888-90; 1891-93
Isaac W. Keim	1890-91
Adam B. Waide	1891-93
Wellington W. Light	1893-95
Charles G. Willson	1895-97
John H. Millholland	1897-98
Robert D. Millholland	1898-99
Evan L. Shomo	1899-1903
George W. Sassaman	1903-09
L. Howard Gehris	1909-11

Eighth Ward

George Gehman, Jr.	1865-66
Charles Hill	1865-67
Franklin S. Bernhart	1866-68
Christian Schick	1867-69; 1882-86
Henry Hiller	1868-70
Jacob R. Ritter	1869-71
Nicholas Heckman	1869-71
Daniel Mast	1870-72
B. Frank Boyer	1871-73
Andrew J. Fricker	1872-74
David C. Keller	1873-75
Charles E. Wannamacher	1873-75
Solomon S. Kindt	1874-76
Francis Roland	1875-78; 1884-86
George Reisinger	1875-76
Christian Geissler	1875-76; 1878-80
Mayberry Moser	1876-78
Charles Orth	1876-78
William Gricsemer	1876-78
Daniel S. Francis	1878-80
William K. Leithiser	1878-80
Hiester M. Nagle	1878-80
John P. Dauth	1880-82
Peter Helfrich	1880-84
Henry Reiger	1880-82
Jervise W. Edes	1880-82
Lewis Heilman	1882-86
John F. Rote	1882-84
John Moyer	1884-88
Frank Aulenbach	1884-86
Frank P. Esterly	1886-89
William B. Laudes	1886-90
W. A. Witman	1886-88
Adam D. Fasig	1888-89
Abraham Briel	1889-90
Thomas C. Ancona	1889-90
Adam K. Drexel	1889-92
George B. Clouser	1890-94
William F. Ressler	1892-94
John M. Fritch	1894-96
John H. Close	1896-98
Kilbern H. Cleaver	1898-1900
William F. Remppis	1900-02
William A. Smith	1902-07
Harry G. Davis	1907-10

Ninth Ward

Henry Miller	1865-66
John Barth	1865-67
Theodore Homan	1866-68
Addy Gehry	1867-71; 1873-75
Harrison Smith	1867-69
John Stark	1868-72; 1873-76
D. S. Himelreich	1869-71; 1873-75
Daniel Ritter	1870-72
John S. Wagner	1871-73
John H. Clay	1871-73
Joseph A. Frees	1872-74
William J. Woodland	1872-74
Christ. Baukrecht	1874-76; 1878-80; 1882-85
James Y. Hartman	1874-76
Thomas McGovern	1875-76

David Henry	1876-78
Isaac Rohrbach	1876-78
Leonard Herbst	1876-78
Edward M. Castor	1876-78
John C. K. Heme	1878-79
Henry P. Herb	1878-89
Daniel L. Struck	1878-82
Lewis L. Moyer	1879-80
John Babst	1880-82
Henry Schoffer	1880-82
Obadiah Romig	1880-82
John E. Steinel	1882-85
William Loyd	1882-85
Thomas D. Caster	1882-85
John Sauer	1884-86
John H. Kline	1884-86
Conrad Bower	1884-86
E. N. Kline	1884-86
A. H. Kretz (resigned)	1884—
George J. Hain	1884-86
M. S. Umbenhauer	1886-88
John P. Martin	1886-87
I. Comley Fetter	1886-89
Joseph Goldsmith	1886-90; 1893-95
B. F. Hunsicker	1887-88
Augustus Resch	1888-89
W. M. Smith	1888-89
Walter B. Craig	1889-90
Jefferson Quinter	1889-90
Harry Dungan	1889-90
E. B. Wingert	1890-91
George L. Mast	1891-93
Howard Thompson	1891-93
Joseph Witman	1895-99
William F. Ritter	1899-1900
John F. Larkin	1900-03
Joseph N. Vogel	1903-05
Jacob Dieter, Jr.	1905-09
Herman J. Croessant	1909-11

Tenth Ward

Hiram M. Trout	1876-78
Charles W. Hulshizer	1876-78
Thomas Lillis	1876-78
Edward W. DeHaven	1878-80
Isaiah Hoyer	1878-80
George E. Wisner	1878-79
James D. Long	1879-80
Eli W. Fox	1880-84
William F. Weber	1880-81
Joseph K. Bauman	1880-82
John L. Lawrence	1881-82
William H. Sprösser	1882-84
Thomas West	1882-83
Luther Seiders	1883-84
William H. Bellman	1884-86
William Kensil	1884-86
James Matz	1884-88
B. F. Sheeder	1884-86
Daniel Auchenbach	1886-87
Robert Smith	1886-87
Zacharias D. Saylor	1887-96
Harry Hines	1887-88
Charles F. Ycity	1888-99
Jacob Hunsberger	1888-89
John M. Weber	1889-94
John B. Houp	1889-90
John A. Rauon	1896-98
Richard L. Lawrence	1898-1910

Eleventh Ward

Daniel K. Zwoyer	1876-79; 1882-86
Charles Rohrbach	1876-78
David Raenzahn	1876-78
Samuel P. Mays	1876-77
William H. Klineyoung	1877-78
Frederick M. Fisher	1878-79
John K. Howden	1878-80
John S. Wagner	1878-80

Christian Stolz	1879-80
Thomas Cronan	1879-80
Daniel Dillon	1880-82
Hayward H. Heckman	1880-82
Englebert L. Missimer	1880-82
Ernst Nuebling	1880-82
James Y. Hartman	1882-84
Charles H. Koch	1882-84
Charles Eck	1882-84
Reuben Matz	1882-83
Charles M. Clouse	1881-86
H. S. Hartman	1881-86
Leo Rehr	1881-86
Lavinus Rhoads	1881-86
Henry Seibert	1881-86
George M. Hess	1886-87
Lender Trickle	1886-88
Paul Kerschner	1886-88
William F. Weber	1887-88
Alfred Gunkel	1888-91
William H. Hippler	1888-90
John R. Laucks	1889-90
Charles Gorkes	1890-91
H. G. Johnson	1891-93
John Rock	1891-93
Samuel E. Cummings	1893-99
Jacob F. Hollenbacher	1899-1903
John M. Alt	1903-07
John Gallagher	1907-09
Isaac Haller	1909-11

Twelfth Ward

Samuel Millmore	1886-88
Spencer H. Smith	1886-88
Eugene C. Flemming	1887-94
George W. Klusey	1888-89
Adam H. Fies	1889-92
Adam H. Beard	1889-90
James P. Yorgy	1892-1900
Charles J. Kestner	1900-02
Daniel Smith	1902-06
Michael Kestner	1906-08
Joseph W. Kellar	1908-10

Thirteenth Ward

Henry Seidel	1886-88
Bennerville Rohrbach	1886-88; 1903-05
Joseph Borky	1888-90
Jacob Bower, Jr.	1888-90; 1891-93
John B. Weidner	1890-93
Charles H. Ramsey	1890-91
Mayberry K. Spatz	1893-97
J. Ashton Parker	1897-1903
Levi F. Templin	1905-08
B. Frank Bott	1908-11

Fourteenth Ward

Morris Arnold	1893-94
William R. Dunn	1894-96
John H. Mast	1896-1902
M. M. Lenhart	1902-01
Earnest V. Bechtel	1904-06
George A. Rick	1906-10

Fifteenth Ward

George W. Shaffer	1893-1901
Isaac Hollenbach	1901-03
Heber Ermentrout	1903-08
George A. Ritter	1908-11

Sixteenth Ward

Alfred Will	1895-96
John H. Bach	1896-1900
James M. Hutchison	1900-02
Howard R. Brown	1902-04
William G. Hintz	1901-06
Charles M. Smeck	1906-08
John A. L. Flemming	1908-10

PRESIDENTS OF COMMON COUNCIL

Name	Term
Lewis Briner	1847-49
Samuel Frees	1849-50
William A. Wells	1850-51
Augustus C. Hoff	1851-53
Adam Waid	1853-54; 1859-60
Hiram C. Ritter	1854-55
Joseph A. McLean	1855-56
John Fink	1856-57
Henry A. M. Filbert	1857-59
J. Timothy Jackson	1860-61
Samuel M. Fillman	1861-62
William B. Hertzfel	1862-63
James Donagan	1863-64
William S. Ritter	1864-65
George B. Connard	1865-66
Levi Wunder	1866-67
Michael McCullough	1867-69
Addy Gehry	1869-71; 1874-75
Lew. Wanner	1871-73
Abner K. Stauffer	1873-74
Charles B. Wells	1875-76
Wesley C. Hall	1876-77
William G. Rowe	1877-78
Hiester M. Nagle	1878-79
Christian W. Geissler	1879-80
Edward O. Immel	1880-81
James K. Getz	1881-82
Amos B. Wanner	1882-83
Ellis L. Castor	1883-84
Lewis Heilman	1884-85
James A. O'Reilly	1885-87
I. Comley Fetter	1887-88
Samuel D. Missimer	1888-89
Alfred Gunkel	1889-90
Israel S. Fry	1890-92
George B. Clouser	1892-94
D. Elmer Dampman	1894-95
Griffith W. Jones	1895-96
James P. Yorgy	1896-98
Samuel E. Cummings	1898-99
John H. Bach	1899-1900
Rufus W. Woliskill	1900-01
Charles J. Kestner	1901-02
Jacob F. Hollenbacher	1902-03
Richard L. Lawrence	1903-08
George A. Rick	1908-10

CLERKS OF COMMON COUNCIL

Name	Term
John W. Tyson	1847-52
A. L. Hennershotz	1852-58; 1859-61
Michael P. Boyer	1858-59
B. Frank Haas	1861-62
Nathan M. Eisenhower	1862-63
John Ralston	1863-72
Solomon A. Stout	1872-73
Charles S. Butler	1873-74; 1875-76
John C. K. Heine	1874-75
Jonathan Holt	1876-78
Henry H. Holl	1878-79
Luther Seiders	1879-80
George H. Felix	1880-83; 1889-90
Charles J. Tyson	1883-86
John H. Focht	1886-89
William F. Weber	1890-91
Alfred Gunkel	1891-94
Edward C. Eben	1894-95
Howard N. Goodman	1895-98; 1902-04
Luther Seiders	1898-99
Lincoln S. Ramsey	1899-1901
Rufus W. Woliskill	1901-02
Edward McCann	1904-09

CITY CLERKS

Name	Term
George H. Felix	1884-89
Cyrus T. Fox	1889-90
I. Comley Pette	1890-96
Horace H. Hammer	1896-99
Edwin L. Lindnuth	1899-1902
Charles C. Weltmer	1902-08
Caleb Weidner	1908-09

SOLICITORS

Name	Term
James Donagan	1847-48
George G. Barclay	1848-50
J. Bright Smith	1850-52
William F. Filbert	1852-53
Edmund L. Smith	1853-55
Charles K. Robeson	1855-57
Albert G. Green	1857-59
A. Lucius Henneshotz	1859-61
Wharton Morris	1861-62
George J. Eckert	1862-63
James B. Bechtel	1863-64
Edward H. Shearer	1864-65
J. Glancy Jones	1865-67
Daniel Ermentrout	1867-70
Edwin Shalter	1870-73
J. Howard Jacobs	1873-74
William M. Rightmyer	1874-75
Harrison Maltzberger	1875-77
Daniel H. Wingerd	1877-79
Christian H. Ruhl	1879-81
Benjamin F. Dettra	1881-83
Wayne Hayman	1883-85
William J. Rourke	1885-96; 1897-1903; 1904-08
W. Kerper Stevens	1896-97
Walter S. Young	1903-04
Henry P. Keiser	1908-11

ENGINEERS

Name	Term
Matthias S. Richards	1847-48
Aaron Albright	1848-57; 1859-61; 1862-63
William Davis	1857-58
Christian Stolz	1858-59
D. S. Zacharias	1861-62; 1863-68; 1874-76
Samuel M. Rea	1864-74
Henry T. Kendall	1876-79
Levi Wunder	1879-81
A. Harvey Tyson	1881-85
Daniel Housum	1885-88
J. Gerhart Young	1888-89
Samuel S. Hoff	1889-94; 1897-99
Edwin C. Chamberlain	1894-97
Alexander Murdoch	1899-1902
Elmer H. Beard	1902-09
Edmund B. Ulrich	1909-12

MARKET COMMISSIONERS

Name	Term
John Boyer	1847-49
William Keen	1849-50
J. H. Griesemer	1850-51
John Moyer	1851-52
William E. Wilson	1852-55
Daniel M. Weand	1855-56
John E. Yeager	1856-57
Isaac Heckman	1857-59; 1861-62
Daniel Setley	1859-60
B. F. Ermentrout	1860-61; 1862-63
William S. Young	1863-66
Jacob Goodhart	1866-68
Jacob Goodhart, Jr.	1868-70
Henry J. Smith	1870-73
Benj. Weiss	1873-74
John Denhard	1874-75
Peter Texter	1875-76
James W. Longacre	1876-77
William Clark	1877-78

Lawrence P. Ressler	1878-79
Levi I. R. Krick	1879-80
Bertolet Grant	1880-84
Jacob Rapp	1884-86
Daniel Baus	1886-89
Charles M. Clous	1889-93
Adrian S. Loewen	1893-96
Albert Merz	1896-1900
Peter Texter, Jr.	1900-02
Martin Hauck	1902-05
Frank Menges	1905-08
Howard S. Weaver	1908-11

BOARD OF HEALTH.—An Act of Assembly was passed on April 22, 1873, specially authorizing the establishment of a board of health for Reading, with powers for the preservation of the public health. The board was made to consist of seven members, with an indefinite term of service and without compensation, who were to be appointed by the presidents of the city councils. The city was divided into four districts, with Sixth and Penn streets as the dividing lines. One member was to be appointed from each district and one from the city at large; and these five were to select two physicians. And provision was made for the annual appointment of a health commissioner by the board, with a compensation to be fixed by councils.

The board of health effected a permanent organization on March 10, 1874. The following persons have been members:

First District

Name	Term
Charles Breneiser	1874-80
Dr. Wm. F. Marks	1880—

Second District

David Ermentrout	1874-82
Garrett B. Stevens	1882-83
Charles H. Schaeffer	1883-1902
D. N. Schaeffer	1902-03
B. F. Dettra	1905—

Third District

Dr. W. Murray Weidman	1874-82
Thomas P. Merritt	1882—

Fourth District

Dr. S. S. Stevens	1874-82
David P. Schlott	1882-1902
Daniel S. Esterly	1903—

At Large

Dr. Martin Luther	1874-94
Dr. John N. Becker	1894—

PHYSICIANS

Name	Term
Dr. Israel Cleaver	1874-79
Dr. Frank Rieser	1874-80
Dr. M. Albert Rhoads	1879-94
Dr. William F. Muhlenberg	1880-83
Dr. Adam B. Dundor	1883-1902
Dr. S. L. Kurtz	1894—
Dr. Charles Roland	1902—

HEALTH COMMISSIONERS

Name	Term
Charles F. Frick	1874
Howard L. Miller	1874-82
Roland Laing	1882—

NOTE.—The dash after the year indicates continuance in office.

PLUMBING INSPECTORS

At the request of the board of health, the office of plumbing inspector was created by an ordinance passed Nov. 9, 1895, which was modified by an-

other ordinance passed Jan. 11, 1896. The appointees have been:

Name	Term
Thomas E. Weber	1896-99
John E. Drexel	1899-1902; 1903-08
J. Edward Delmer	1902-05
John D. Corbit	1908-11

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY

By ordinance, approved Feb. 23, 1899, whereby the city of Reading accepted the donation of the Reading Library (including the real estate and all books and manuscripts), situated on the southwest corner of Fifth and Franklin streets, a board of sixteen trustees for the management thereof was established, to be constituted as follows: The Mayor to be an *ex-officio* member; ten members to be appointed by the city councils in joint convention; and five members to be appointed by the "Reading Library." The first board was constituted as follows:

Adam R. Leader, Mayor, *ex-officio*.

Appointed by Councils

George M. Ermentrout
Peter S. Holl
Charles S. Hunter
John H. Keppelman
Frank S. Livingood
James A. O'Reilly
John A. Rigg
William Rosenthal
Reuben G. Shalter
W. Kerper Stevens

Appointed by Reading Library

George F. Baer
Nathaniel Ferguson
Richmond L. Jones
John R. Kaucher
Abner K. Stauffer

The following is a complete list of the trustees since 1899:

Name	Term
George F. Baer	1899—
George M. Ermentrout	1899—
Nathaniel Ferguson	1899—
Peter S. Holl	1899—
Charles S. Hunter	1899—
Richmond L. Jones	1899—
John R. Kaucher	1899—
John H. Keppelman	1899—
Frank S. Livingood	1899—
James A. O'Reilly	1899-1902
John A. Rigg	1899—
William Rosenthal	1899-1900
Reuben G. Shalter	1899-1902
Abner K. Stauffer	1899-1907
William Kerper Stevens	1899-1902
Adam R. Leader, Mayor	1899-1902
Isaac Hiester	1901—
Albert S. Ibach	1903
Thomas P. Merritt	1903—
Henry W. Snyder	1903—
Edward Yeager, Mayor	1902-05
Thomas C. Zimmerman	1904—
Edward R. Gerber, Mayor	1905-08
William Riek, Mayor	1908-11

Officers since Organization of Library

Richmond L. Jones, president; Charles H. Hunter, secretary and treasurer.

Number of volumes in library, July 1, 1909, 27,000. Books loaned during 1908, 125,658. Borrowers registered, 18,553. This shows the successful management of the library.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Under the Act of 1783 Reading became entitled to elect two justices of the peace as a separate district. In 1803, the County Commissioners divided the county into fifteen districts. They made Reading the First District, and under the Act of April 4, 1803, it was entitled to four incumbents. In 1840, Reading was divided into two wards for justices, with Penn street as the dividing line.

The names of the following officials and time of appointment were secured from the records at Harrisburg:

Valentine Eckert	1784
Henry Christ	1784
John Otto	1785
James Diemer	1788
Peter Nagle	Aug. 3, 1791
James May (did not act)	Aug. 31, 1791
John Christ	Oct. 3, 1799
Peter Frailley	—
Matthias Richards	—
Henry Hahn	April 1, 1806
Frederick Heller	Jan. 1, 1807
Jacob Miller	Nov. 13, 1811
John M. Hyneman	Sept. 3, 1813
Christopher Scherrer	Sept. 17, 1813
John Addams	May 13, 1816
William Schoener	March 24, 1818
John Frantz	March 24, 1818
Frederick Fritz	June 28, 1821
John Spayd	June 28, 1821
Matthias Richards	Nov. 8, 1823
Edward B. Hubley	Dec. 3, 1823
Joseph Tyson	Dec. 8, 1823
Curtis Lewis	Dec. 8, 1823
Peter Aurand	Dec. 12, 1823
John Miller	Dec. 12, 1823
Henry Betz	Dec. 12, 1823
Matthias Richards	April 4, 1827
Jonathan D. Hiester	June 5, 1827
Peter Nagle, Jr.	Aug. 1, 1828
Jacob Sallade	March 5, 1830
David Rightmyer	July 25, 1831
Lloyd Wharton	Oct. 19, 1831
Lewis Rees	April 2, 1832
Thomas Morris	Jan. 4, 1836
Jacob Fritz	Feb. 12, 1838
Henry Tothers	Sept. 22, 1838
Henry Bowman	March 26, 1839

North Ward

Wm. Schoener	April 14, 1840
Henry Betz	April 14, 1840
William Betz	April 13, 1841
William Schoener	April 15, 1845
William Betz	April 14, 1846

South Ward

Charles Troxell	April 14, 1810
William A. Wells	April 14, 1840
Marks B. Eckert	April 12, 1842
David Medary	April 9, 1844
Matthias Mengel	April 15, 1845



ALDERMEN

In 1847 the city was divided into two districts for aldermen, that portion north of Penn street comprising the Northern District, and that portion south, the Southern; and each district was given two aldermen with a term of five years. An additional alderman was given to the Northern District by a special Act of Assembly, passed Jan. 31, 1873, by reason of its extent and large population. In 1874 the new charter gave each of the nine wards an alderman. Two wards were erected in 1876; two in 1885; two in 1892; and one in 1894; and thence the electors of those wards also elected an alderman.

FROM 1847-75

Northern District

Name	Term
William Betz	1847-51
William Schoener	1847-51
Frank B. Miller	1851-63
William B. Schoener	1851-75
Washington Richards	1865-73
Lewis Kremp	1873-75
Israel C. Becker	1874-75

Southern District

David Medary	1847-55
Matthias Mengel	1847-60; 1868-73
George Printz	1855-75
John Quimby	1860-63
Peter Cleaver	1863-68
Ezekiel Jones	1873-75

UNDER CHARTER OF 1874

First Ward

Name	Term
Enos Morris	1875-78
John B. Maxton	1878-84
John W. Ringler	1884-89
George W. Mannerback	1889-94
Charles E. Stout	1894-1902
Charles E. Stout (Jr.)	1902-13

Second Ward

Joseph R. Pawling	1875-80
Christian M. Deem	1880-85
George W. Ritner	1885-90
Henry H. Wentzel	1890-95; 1897-1902
George H. McFatridge	1895-97
John Undheim	1902-12

Third Ward

Ezekiel Jones	1875-83
John Hipple	1883-88
Frederick H. Printz	1888-93
Monroe S. Eby	1893-98
Howard Koch	1898-1913

Fourth Ward

Matthias Mengel	1875-85
Edmund Sheetz	1885-95
Llewellyn S. Levan	1895-97
William H. Houck	1897-1902
Milton C. Kreider	1902-12

Fifth Ward

Daniel Potteiger	1875-86
C. A. Griesemer	1886-97
Lyman H. Wilson	1897-98
C. W. Yarnell	1898-1913

Sixth Ward

Jonathan L. Reber	1875-77
George M. Ermentrout	1877-93

Francis C. Clemson	1893-1903; 1908-09*
John A. Hiester	1903-08

Seventh Ward

William B. Schoener	1875-81
Israel C. Becker	1875-78
John G. L. Brownwell	1881-1901
George M. Miller	1901-11

Eighth Ward

Lewis Kremp	1875-78
William L. Gaul	1878-83
John Denhart	1883-90
Henry O. Schrader	1890-95
Albert H. Fegley	1895-1900
Eugene I. Sandt	1900-08
William H. Thornburg	1908-09
Clarence C. Dunn	1909-11

Ninth Ward

Isaac R. Fisher	1875-90
Edward C. Kirschman	1890-1905
George L. Mast	1905-10

Tenth Ward

Henry H. Holl	1876-94
John A. Merkel	1894-1909
Herman Hermann	1909-14

Eleventh Ward

Israel M. Bertolet	1876-80
David Rink	1880-81
George H. Long	1881-90
George Kreamer	1890-91
William F. Weber	1891-1912

Twelfth Ward

John K. Howden	1886-96
Henry S. Yocum	1896-1901
Henry L. Wickel	1901-11

Thirteenth Ward

Peter T. Phillippi	1886-92
Daniel C. Boyer	1892-1902
Jacob H. Scheifele	1902-07
George W. Millmore	1907-12

Fourteenth Ward

Edwin P. Van Reed	1893-1903
Joseph E. Bruce	1903-13

Fifteenth Ward

George M. Ermentrout	1893-94
William T. Snyder	1894-1914

Sixteenth Ward

George W. Brown	1895-1902
N. Robert Tomlinson	1902-07
George B. Clouser	1907-12

CONSTABLES

Two constables were elected annually for the city from 1847 to 1875. The new charter of 1874 required the election of one constable for each ward for three years. Since 1875 constables for the city have been elected accordingly.

FROM 1847-75

Name	Term
Peter J. H. Griesemer	1847-51
Reuben Goodhart	1847-51; 1860-72
William B. Yahn	1848-50; 1854-55
Christian Snyder	1850-54; 1860-62
William Keen	1851-54; 1857-60
William Y. Lyon	1854-55
Jeremiah Griesemer	1855-56
William Fasig	1855-57
John W. Lash	1856-60

* Resigned May, 1909, and Irvin H. Tobias appointed.

Joseph Deysher	1862-63
Benj. F. Ermentrout	1862-63
Wood M. Schwartz	1863-65; 1866-73
James Sheildy	1863-65; 1867-68
John H. Printz	1865-66
John Guiles	1865-66
Charles Frederick	1866-67
W. W. Diehl	1868-74
W. L. Gaul	1873-75
Alfred W. Glase	1874-75

UNDER CHARTER OF 1874

First Ward

Name	Term
George Harner	1875-81
George Mannerback	1881-87
William C. Gaul	1887-90
Lewis M. Rhoads	1890-1905
Harry M. Ould	1905-11

Second Ward

Zacharias Oswald	1875-78
Michael McGrann	1878-82
John Ehrgood	1882-85
Henry Witman	1885-89
George McFatridge	1889-96
Jacob S. Wentzel	1896-99
George M. Gehret	1899-1905
Francis W. Ganter	1905-11

Third Ward

Aaron Roland	1875-78
William P. Gaul	1878-81
Richard B. Adams	1881-84
Benneville Ehrgood	1884-90
Samuel Shirey	1890-93
Charles H. Derr	1893-99
Charles H. Dietrich	1899-1905
William Miles	1905-11

Fourth Ward

Alfred W. Glase	1875-89
Henry A. Maurer	1890-93
William Y. Lyon	1893-96; 1902
Milton C. Kreider	1896-1902
Jacob Roval	1903-05
Franklin E. Kreider	1905-11

Fifth Ward

Thomas Shunk	1875-77
Joseph Heifer	1877-83
Lyman H. Wilson	1883-87
Charles H. Fisher	1887-96
Charles M. Deem	1896-99
John F. Feger	1899-1905
William F. Stelman	1905-11

Sixth Ward

Lewis Neuland	1875-78
Augustus Lessig	1878-80
John M. Sharp	1880-1899
Harry J. Focht	1899-1908
Heber F. Buckwalter	1908-11

Seventh Ward

Wood M. Schwartz	1875-78
Raymond B. Lewis	1878-80
Henry W. Lash	1880-83
Leslie Strubell	1883-1911

Eighth Ward

William L. Gaul	1875-78
John Denhard	1878-83
Lawrence P. Ressler	1883-87
George B. Wagner	1887-1908
Senecor A. Phillippi	1908-11

Ninth Ward

George Kreamer	1875-87
George Miller	1887-96
Harry T. Beck	1896-1905
John J. Sparely	1905-11

Tenth Ward

Michael Doyle	1876-79
James Malson	1879-82
Henry C. W. Matz	1882-87
John H. Bobst	1887-88
Jacob Matz	1888-89
George H. Goodwin	1889-90; 1893-96
Augustus Luebka	1890-93
Harry Wise	1896-1902
George J. Brown	1902-11

Eleventh Ward

Jacob F. Hollenbacher	1876-79
Amos A. Bechtold	1879-86
Jacob B. Reifsnnyder	1893-1905
J. Edward Reifsnnyder	1905
George S. Straub	1905-11

Twelfth Ward

Samuel James	1886-87
Augustus Buchter	1887-90
John Borrell	1890-1911

Thirteenth Ward

Samuel Bechtold	1886-94
Oscar Detwiler	1894-96
Isaiah J. Beck	1896-99; 1902-11
Franklin E. Kreider	1899-1902

Fourteenth Ward

John Gottshall	1893-99
William W. Hinkle	1899-1902
Frederick J. Fegley	1902-11

Fifteenth Ward

Edward O'Connor	1893-1902
John F. Fisher	1902-11

Sixteenth Ward

Samuel Focht	1895-96
Irvin S. Close	1896-99
Robert Gaul	1899-1907
Howard Brown	1907-08
John W. Smith	1908-11

SCHOOL CONTROLLERS

From the beginning of the school system in 1831 to 1854, the several wards of Reading were separate organizations for carrying on school affairs; but there were so many inconveniences in the system that in the latter year another was provided by law, by which the boroughs and cities in Pennsylvania were constituted single school districts. Reading having then been a city, the school controllers of the five wards held a joint meeting, May 16, 1854, and effected an organization by electing John Banks as president, John S. Richards as secretary, and Samuel Frees as treasurer.

The first school board, after this organization, was composed of the following controllers:

Northwest Ward

I. S. Richards
W. H. Strickland
Ephraim Armstrong
William Ermentrout
Ivens Benson
Charles Fritz

Southeast Ward

John Banks
Ezekiel Jones
Isaac Brenholtz
George Printz
Frederick Printz
George W. Gaul

Northeast Ward

George Foos
C. W. Shultz
Samuel L. Young
J. Bowman
Jacob Mast
Daniel Zacharias

Southwest Ward

Samuel Frees
A. G. Green
William B. Hertzell
James Van Horn
David McKnight
Benjamin M. Hoag

Spruce Ward

Amos Hooker
A. S. Whitman
Jacob H. Deysher

Evan B. McCord
John Miles
Thomas Barnet

Second Ward

Henry W. Moyer 1873-75
Daniel Shaaber 1873-79
Redmond McManus 1873-74
Henry C. Hain 1873-77; 1879-83; 1887-89
Samuel Holl 1874-77
James J. Driscoll 1875-82
A. J. Fink 1877-85
Peter N. Snyder 1877-81
Griffith W. Jones 1881-89
John Morris 1882-1907
John P. Miller 1883-87
Ellis L. Caster 1885-93
Edward A. Howell 1889-97
Edward H. Kreamer 1891-95
Henry A. Harner 1893-1901
Elmer A. German 1895-1903
Frank Kissinger 1897-1905
Peter Schlarb, Jr. 1901-10
George W. Ubil 1903-07
Edward C. Price 1905-10
Henry E. Keeler 1907-10
Edward S. High 1907-10

Third Ward

Henry Johnston 1873-75
William G. McGowan 1873-75
E. J. Rauch 1873-74
John Wise 1873-77
Henry H. Holl 1874-76
James M. Lyons 1875-79
Levi H. Liess 1875-79
Charles Sculi 1876-77
John G. Mohn 1877-89
Henry D. Schoedler 1877-79
Frank Schaeffer 1879-81
Joshua Clouser 1879-83
Jacob Holl 1879-87
William Kerper 1881-89
James R. Kenney 1883-87
William High 1887-91
Alfred Snively 1887-91
Chester B. Jennings 1889-1901
B. Frank Ruth 1889-1901; 1903-10
Fred H. Witman 1891-95
Thomas G. Printz 1891-99
Henry W. Schick 1895-1910
Oscar B. Wetherhold 1899-1903
William B. Harper 1901-04
John W. Morrison 1901-07
Ira G. Shoemaker 1904-10
John G. Rhoads 1907-10

Fourth Ward

Jeremiah Hagenman 1873-83
William M. Rightmyer 1873-77
Charles McKnight 1873-79
Harrison Maltzberger 1873-83; 1889-93
William H. Kelley 1877-81
Levi Quier 1879-89
Jefferson M. Keller 1881-1900
Henry G. Young 1883-87
Henry D. High 1883-91
John H. Obold 1887-1910
William J. Robst 1891-99
Edward W. James 1893-1908
Walter A. Rigg 1899-1907
Charles J. Hoff 1900-05
John H. Rothermel 1905-06
Henry H. Herman 1907-08
Thomas H. Morgan 1908-10
Henry S. Fichthorn 1909-10
William S. Dickinson 1909-10

Fifth Ward

James Mulligan 1873-79
John F. Moers 1873-75
Samuel Frees 1873-81
George W. Phelps 1873-79

On April 26, 1864, the charter of Reading was revised, and in this revision the consolidation of the five wards into one school district was preserved. Each ward became entitled to four controllers, with a term of four years; and two of them were to be elected alternately every two years. The voters at the biennial elections after 1865 were to vote for one person, and the two persons having the largest number of votes were to be declared elected. This provision was made to preserve the political equipoise of the board. The first controllers were elected in February, 1865, and the school affairs of Reading have been carried on ever since under the Act of 1864. The board was authorized to assess and collect taxes for school purposes.

A revision of the city charter was again made by the general Act of 1874, including a provision for school affairs, but it was not accepted by Reading. Therefore, the school affairs of Reading are carried on separately from the city affairs.

The names of the controllers of the several wards are given in the following statement, from 1873 to the present time—the names for the years from 1865 until 1873 not having been obtainable, because the reports are missing:

First Ward

Name	Term
Jesse G. Hawley	1873-75
John B. Maxton	1873-75
Solomon Sprecher	1873-77
Henry J. Fink	1873-77; 1883-87
William B. Albright	1875-79
James E. Yoder	1875-79
H. A. Corbit	1877-79
A. J. Darlington	1877-79
J. Henry Hoffmaster	1879-81
Matthan Harbster	1879-81
Albert D. Boas	1879-81
Josiah H. Hildebeitel	1879-83
Joseph R. Robison	1881-83
Jesse Orr	1881-83
William S. Humbert	1881-85
Isaac W. Hull	1883-86
George B. Albright	1885-89
Frank W. Eben	1886-87
William D. Wolfinger	1887-91
Franklin Heifer	1887-93
John M. Adams	1889-97
Frank K. Flood	1891-95
Harry W. Orr	1893-98
John E. Harbster	1893-97
George E. Tyson	1895-1910
William A. Barber	1897-1905
George F. Hagenman	1897-1907
Henry T. Melcher	1898-1910
Frank G. Wilson	1905-10
Jeremiah G. Hagenman	1907-10

Henry D. Schoedler	1875-76	A. T. C. Keffer	1873-81
Wellington Van Reed	1876-1910	Henry S. Eckert	1875-89
Ephraim Armstrong	1879-81	Henry W. Burkey	1874-75
John F. Orth	1879-82	Harrison Shultz	1875-79
William H. Wilhelm	1881-89	S. E. Ancona	1877-83; 1887-90
Charles A. Z. Grisesmer	1881-89	James M. Lyons	1879-86
Edgar W. Alexander	1882-83; 1887-90	Jacob H. Goodman	1881-89
Peter W. Nagle	1886-87	Christian W. Geissler	1883-87
John E. Goodhart	1889-93	Adam W. Schwartz	1886-87
Peter A. Fritch	1889-93	George Foos	1887-90
Frederic P. Heller	1890-95	Eugene I. Sandt	1889-94
John R. Miller	1893-97	Hiester M. Nagle	1889-93
John C. Wollison	1893-97	Thaddeus A. Hoyer	1893-97
Harry F. Hahn	1895-1903; 1904-10	Edwin B. Gettis	1893-1901
Alvin N. Boyer	1897-1904	James R. Mercer	1895-99
Lloyd M. Nunnemacher	1897-1905	Charles S. Prizer	1895-99
George Y. Yocum	1903-06	Cyrus Wertz	1897-1901
Emanuel Loeb	1905-10	Abram Herr	1899-1910
John B. Krebs	1907-19	Seymour T. Schmechi	1899-1910
Howard F. Hawk	1909-10	J. Wilmer Fisher	1901-08

Sixth Ward

George W. Bushong	1873-75
Alexander Jacobs	1873-75
Daniel P. Shenfelder	1873-77; 1879-93
Lewis Briner	1873-77
Wharton Morris	1875-79
John McKnight	1875-83
John M. Sharp	1877-81
Jacob Snell	1877-81; 1883-91
George W. Boas	1881-87
Jones O. Thomas	1881-89
Stephen M. Meredith	1883-84
Joseph S. Riegel	1884-91
Daniel E. Schroeder	1887-93
Daniel Beidler	1889-93
John S. Thompson	1891-95
Walter Prutzman	1891-99
Charles N. Seitzinger	1893-1901
William Hutchinson	1893-97
John G. Beck	1895-1902
Charles H. Frederick	1897-1901; 1903-05
Daniel P. Kramer	1899-1903
John A. Britton	1901-03
Charles O. Ream	1901-06
John H. Riegel	1902-10
Jacob Diener	1903-07
William Prutzman	1905-10
Harry P. Yost	1907-10
Edward S. Wertz	1907-10

Seventh Ward

Edwin Shalter	1873-79
Daniel Ermentrout	1873-77
Joseph T. Valentine	1873-77
J. Howard Jacobs	1873-75; 1877-85; 1887-91
Charles A. Saylor	1875-83
Daniel D. Lerch	1877-89
W. Benton Stoltz	1879-82
Frank C. Smink	1882-86
J. C. A. Hoffeditz	1883-87; 1891-95
Henry B. Hendel	1885-89
William M. Goodman	1886-90
Stephen M. Meredith	1889-97
John H. Maltzberger	1889-1901
J. Harvey Tyson	1890-94
J. Edward Wanner	1894-1910
Ellsworth A. Leinbach	1895-99
Howard Keppelman	1897-1906
Harry T. Shick	1899-1903
Reuben H. Spangler	1901-10
Charles H. R. Leinbach	1903-06
James F. Mohn	1907-10
J. Newton Rhoads	1907-10

Eighth Ward

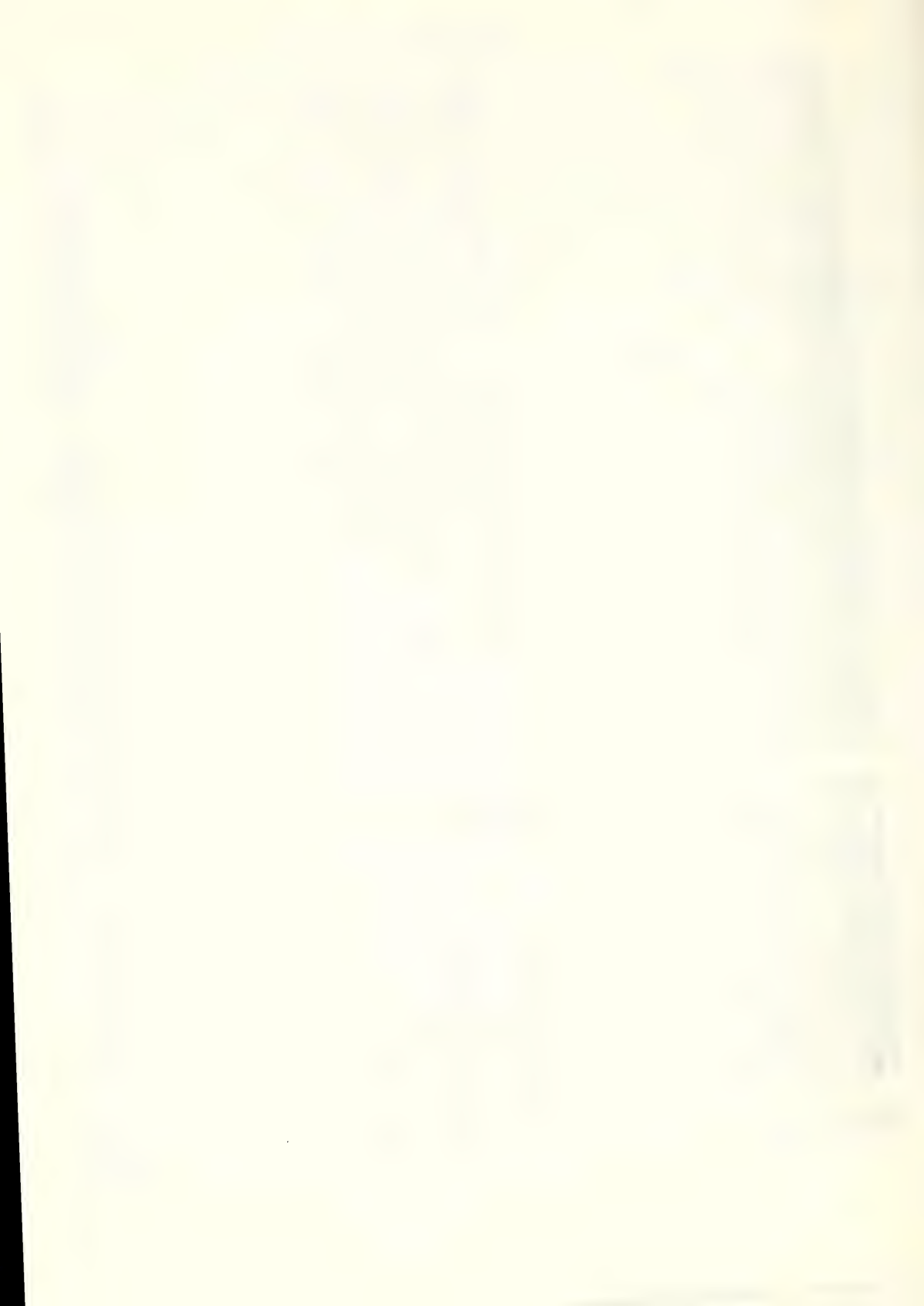
Nicholas Heckman	1873-77
Mahlon K. Taylor	1873-74

Ninth Ward

William Geiger	1873-76
Levi H. Liess	1873-74
Jacob Bissikumer	1873-77
William Beardsworth	1873-76
David Rhein	1874-76
Edwin Ziegler	1876-81
Nathan Rohrbach	1876-79
J. William Landis	1876-81
Ferdinand Goetz	1877-81
Joseph T. Smith	1879-83
Abram Herr	1881-83
Hermann C. Rees	1881-91
John B. Snyder	1881-89
August H. Bartels	1883-87
William Weis	1883-92
Augustus M. High	1887-91
Henry S. Bard	1889-93
Harry A. Heckman	1891-1900
Eli D. Emerich	1891-99
John M. Becker	1892-95
Jonathan S. Ebling	1893-97
Elias H. Frantz	1895-1904
Benjamin F. Hunsicker	1897-1905
George Scheirer	1899-1910
William H. Luppold	1900-04
John M. Smith	1904-10
Robert Strasser	1904-05
William Bauknecht	1905-09
Peter Eyrich	1905-10
Robert B. Machemer	1909-10

Tenth Ward

Fidel Weber	1876-78
Samuel B. Ruth	1876-77
John A. Neidert	1876-79
George W. Johns	1876-80
James Vanstaxoren	1877-78
Wellington Boyer	1879-83
Hiram M. Trout	1878-82
John D. Witman	1878-82
Charles Y. Levan	1880-82
James D. Long	1882-84
Herman Hermann	1882-86
Edward W. De Haven	1882-90
Isaac J. Hale	1883-88
Richard Mohr	1884-92
Michael A. Buckley	1886-98; 1900-04
Luther Seiders	1888-96
Joseph A. Byers	1890-92
James E. Howe	1892-94
Benjamin F. Sheeder	1892-95
William H. Longacre	1894-99
Daniel W. Levan	1895-99



Henry H. Weitzel	1896-1900
Charles F. Brissel	1898-1910
John J. Phillipson	1899-1904
William L. Moser	1899-1900
Edward Taenzer	1900-02
Walter D. Fichtorn	1902-10
Joseph L. Gehris	1904-10
Albert F. East	1904-10

Eleventh Ward

W. H. Chapman	1876-78
Griffith W. Jones	1876-77
John F. Bellemere	1876-78
Samuel M. Guss	1876-78
Frederick Setley	1877-78
James Mendenhall	1878-80
William H. Kelley	1878-80
John G. Kalbach	1878-82
Alfred S. Jones	1878-82
Frank Menges	1880-86
Henry H. Hartman	1880-84
Henry M. Spuhler	1882-83
Jeremiah Seiders	1882-86
Daniel Dillon	1883-84
Adam Filbert	1884-94
Henry H. Jackson	1884-86
Isaac M. Bechtel	1886-89
Calvin S. Gerhard	1886-88
Peres S. Fisher	1886-94
Thomas G. Harper	1888-95
James A. Fisher	1889-98
Alfred Gunkel	1894-1900
Milton J. Miller	1894-98
Charles R. Haman	1895-96
Charles A. Hawk	1896-1910
Urias A. Fisher	1898-1904
Howard G. Becker	1898-1910
Charles P. Saylor	1900-01
Harry M. Laucks	1901-10
George C. Straub	1901-08
Thomas M. Richardson	1908-10

Twelfth Ward

Henry H. Jackson	1886-88
George W. Reisinger	1886-91
Franklin Menges	1886-98
Jeremiah Seiders	1886-94
George W. Ketner	1888-92
Henry Stine	1891-92
William R. Kirn	1892-96
Jenkin Hill	1892-96
Harry S. Levan	1894-1910
John T. Seiders	1896-1910
Daniel K. Biehl	1896-1904
Albert G. Bauman	1898-1902
Thomas A. Shoemaker	1902-10
Eph. S. Brownmiller	1904-10

Thirteenth Ward

George C. Suender	1886-90
William B. High	1886-87
Franklin S. Shimer	1886-88
Henry Seibert	1886-88
William A. Mengel	1887-90
H. Bouchat	1888-95
Abr. Whitman	1888-1905
Frederick W. Cranston	1890-92
Llewellyn Gehret	1890-94
Albert J. Frezman	1892-94
Albert S. Ibach	1894-98
Reuben G. Shalters	1894-98
Wesley B. Marcks	1895-98
Evan C. Wentzel	1898-99
Hiram M. Trout	1898-1902
George J. Trievel	1898-1910
William W. Britton	1899-1900
Charles H. Ramsay	1900-01
William R. Eaches	1902-06

George W. Millmore	1904-08
Huysinga Bouchat	1906-10
Harry C. Wanner	1908-10
David J. Moyer	1908-10

Fourteenth Ward

Henry S. Keffer	1893-95
William W. Fetter	1893-99
Daniel E. Schroeder	1893-97
William P. Keim	1893-97
Samuel J. Waid	1895-1910
B. Frank Fink	1897-99
George R. Hoover	1897-1901
Morris Arnold	1899-1903
John E. Harbster	1899-1901
Frank Bendel	1901-03
Charles S. Shalters	1901-03
James F. Mohn	1903-07
Joseph E. Hess	1903-05
Walter B. Koch	1903-05
Henry M. Obold	1903-09
John M. Frame	1903-09
C. Clarence Long	1906-10
James A. Kalbach	1909-10
Frank H. Doremus	1909-10

Fifteenth Ward

George W. Wagner	1893-99
David K. Kaufman	1893-99
Charles H. Kiesling	1893-1910
Howard E. Ahrens	1893-1904
Ezra Schmehl	1899-1910
James M. Smith	1899-1910
Robert L. Wilson	1904-09
W. Irvin Renninger	1909-10

Sixteenth Ward

Daniel F. Printz	1893-1901
John B. Houp	1895-1900
Samuel H. Fulmer	1895-99
S. E. Ancona	1895-99
Andrew J. Fink, Jr.	1899-1904
Frederick C. Printz	1899-1907
John H. Giles	1900-10
N. Robert Tomlinson	1901-04
John E. Clouser	1904-10
David C. Lotz	1904-10
Nevin M. Davis*	1907-09

The following persons have been officers of the board from 1865 to the present time:

PRESIDENTS		
Name		Term
J. K. McCurdy		1865-67
John S. Richards		1867-72
Henry S. Eckert		1872-88
J. Howard Jacobs		1888-90
S. E. Ancona		1890-93
E. A. Howell		1893-97
George W. Wagner		1897-98
J. Edward Wanner		1898-99; 1905-10
B. F. Hunsicker		1899-1905

SECRETARIES		
Name		Term
Lewis Briner		1865-67
John L. Barnes		1867-70
Charles Scull		1870-72
Thomas Severn		1872-73
William M. Rightmyer		1873-77
A. J. Darlington		1877
Harrison Shultz		1877-79
James M. Lyon		1879-92
Francis Roland, Jr.		1892-1910

* Died April 11, 1900, and Bohlike Luersson appointed successor.

Name	TREASURERS	Term
James Bell	1865-66
Matthias Mengel	1866-68
Peter Jones	1868-69
William Ermentrout	1869-77
Levi H. Liess	1877-80
Ephraim Armstrong	1880-92
James M. Lyons	1892-94
Albert R. Hoover	1894-1900
John B. Renninger	1900-10

CITY SUPERINTENDENTS

In 1867 the school directors of cities containing a population exceeding 10,000 were authorized to elect a city superintendent of the common schools for the term of three years. The directors of Reading elected the first superintendent in 1867. Thence, till now, the superintendents have been:

Name	Term
John L. Barnes	.....1867-69
Thomas Severn	.....1869-78
Robert K. Buchle	.....1878-80
David B. Brunner	.....1880-81
Samuel A. Baer	.....1881-84; 1889-96
Joseph T. Valentine	.....1884-85
Thomas M. Balliet	.....1885-88
Z. X. Snyder	.....1888-89
Ebenezer Mackey	.....1896-1902
Charles S. Foos	.....1902-19

MEAT AND MILK INSPECTOR

A new office was established by councils on Feb. 4, 1909, for the inspection of meat and milk, and the mayor selected as the first appointee Dr. George R. Fetherolf, a resident veterinary surgeon for ten years and a graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College. His legal authority extends throughout the city and into the surrounding district for twenty miles for the purpose of inspecting all butcher-shops and dairy farms which furnish meat or milk to consumers in Reading.

CENSUS

The first correct enumeration of the population of Reading was made by the national government in 1790; and subsequently every ten years. The numbers at the several periods whilst Reading was a borough were as follows:

1790	.....2,235	1820	.....4,332
1800	.....2,386	1830	.....5,556
1810	.....3,462	1840	.....8,410

CENSUS ENUMERATION—1850-1900

Ward	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
1st	2,962	4,019	2,834	3,044	3,694	3,593
2d	3,771	4,189	5,530	5,553	5,947	6,636
3d	3,165	4,905	3,732	4,453	4,665	4,717
4th	3,204	5,760	2,611	2,826	2,758	2,621
5th	2,638	4,289	3,205	3,399	3,467	3,423
6th			2,763	3,762	5,977	8,011
7th			3,541	4,130	5,185	3,861
8th			3,690	3,874	4,403	3,789
9th			6,024	4,206	4,800	5,454
10th				2,834	6,156	4,759
11th				5,195	3,899	5,460
12th					4,110	6,617
13th					3,600	6,811
14th						4,005
15th						3,874
16th						4,911
	15,713	34,162	33,930	43,278	58,661	78,962

SEXES OF POPULATION.—The population of Reading by sexes was as follows:

	Male	Female
1830	2,785	2,846
1840	4,098	4,877
1850	7,760	7,389
1860	11,183	11,976
1870	16,525	17,405
1880	21,099	22,179
1890	29,126	30,575
1900	39,123	39,831

POPULATION NORTH AND SOUTH OF PENN STREET.—By the following table it appears that the major part of the population of Reading was south of Penn street from 1840 to 1880; and by averaging the increase from 1880 to 1890, it is evident that the major part had shifted north of Penn street in the year 1882.

	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
South	4,991	9,901	13,113	17,912	22,111	26,687	31,980
North	3,419	5,842	10,049	16,018	21,157	31,974	47,881
	1,572	4,059	3,064	1,894	944		

COLORED POPULATION.—The colored population at Reading since 1830, by the United States census enumeration, has been as follows: 1830—192; 1840—221; 1850—357; 1860—285; 1870—311; 1880—350; 1890—390; 1900—531.

Getz Enumeration.—In 1847, J. Lawrence Getz, publisher of the *Reading Gazette and Democrat*, made an enumeration of the population at Reading, with the following result, Males, 6,611; females, 6,403; total, 13,014; houses, 2,138; families, 2,398. There were then nearly twice as many persons south of Penn street as there were north.

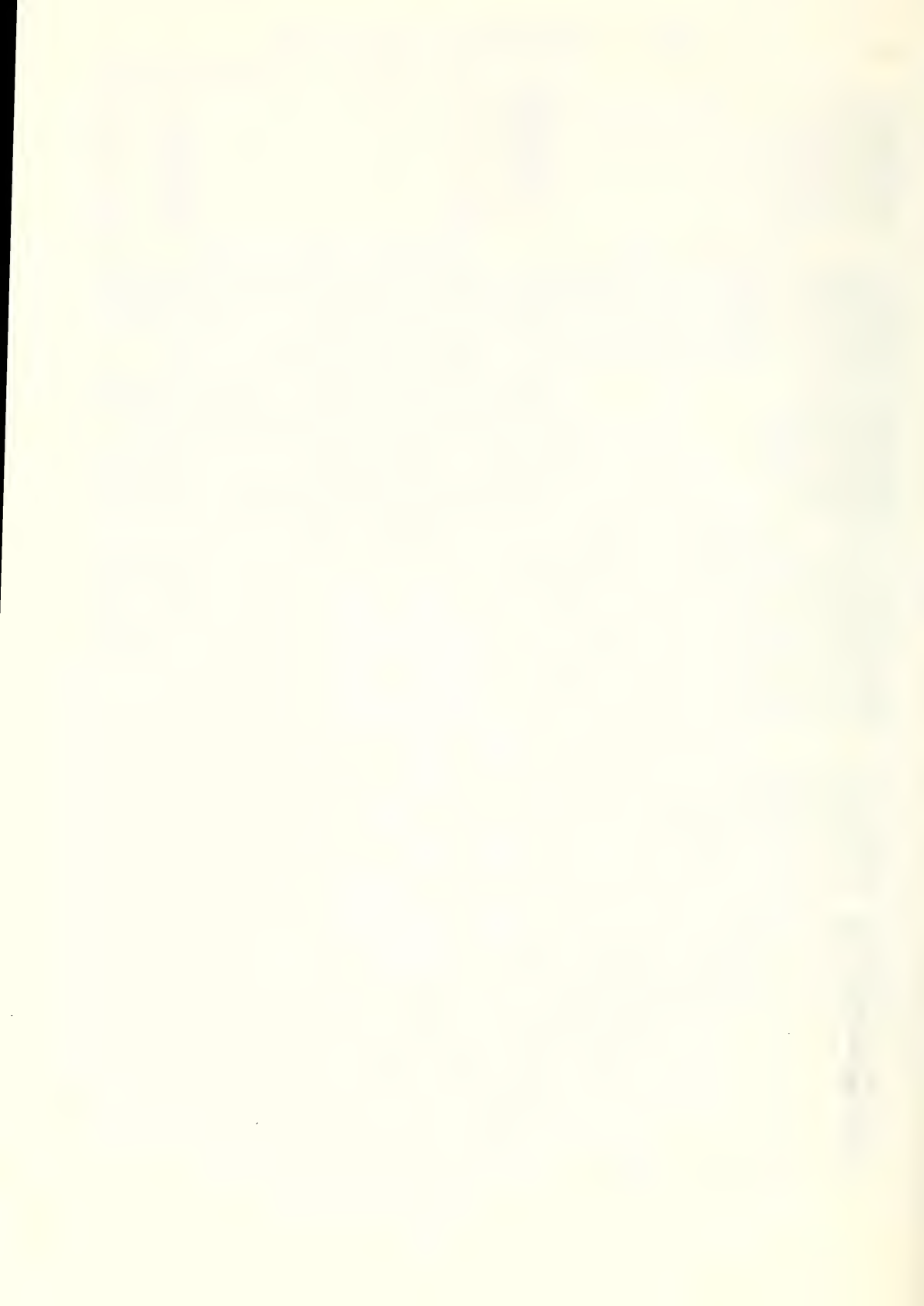
Levan Enumeration.—In 1877, Edgar M. Levan, an attorney at Reading, published a directory of the city. While registering the names of the inhabitants, he collected interesting facts, showing the number and sex of the population, stores, dwellings, etc., with the following result:

Males over 21 years, 9,765; under 21 years, 9,787; females over 21 years, 10,784; under 21 years, 9,773; total, 40,109; stores, 1,044; dwellings, 8,186; manufactories, 117. Number of persons to each inhabited dwelling, 5.19.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.—The following statistics are submitted to show the relative growth of Reading as compared with the country districts of Berks county at three different periods.

	Reading	1856	1885	1905
Taxables		4,094	13,279	35,414
Property assessed		\$1,011,763	\$23,780,222	\$52,724,600
Money at interest		380,553	5,049,482	13,134,847
COUNTRY DISTRICTS		1856	1885	1905
Taxables		13,480	20,879	31,337
Property assessed		\$19,691,126	\$40,806,570	\$10,515,192
Money at interest		2,020,575	8,741,821	8,947,902

ASSESSMENT FOR 1898.—The city assessors of Reading made an assessment of property in the several wards from September to December, 1897, which was revised by city councils from January to March, 1898, with the following result:



Wards	Taxables	Voters	Property Assessed	Exempted Property
1st	1,272	983	\$ 2,046,200	\$ 250,400
2d	1,592	1,407	2,311,500	30,000
3d	1,600	1,306	3,682,000	357,700
4th	1,040	682	3,370,250	238,500
5th	1,173	881	2,074,300	42,000
6th	2,291	1,874	3,688,225	88,000
7th	1,887	1,079	5,266,100	1,101,000
8th	1,269	996	2,902,550	495,500
9th	1,661	1,381	2,144,100	342,800
10th	1,524	1,100	1,270,300	76,800
11th	1,742	1,319	1,773,300	192,400
12th	1,805	1,606	2,277,875	443,800
13th	1,899	1,450	2,345,850	214,300
14th	1,126	872	2,806,808	187,650
15th	931	659	1,957,291	149,600
16th	1,227	1,048	2,168,884	451,700
Total	24,439	18,643	\$42,085,533	\$4,696,650

The property exempted from local taxation embraces all churches, parsonages, school-houses, public buildings, charitable institutions, and corporation buildings not including establishments that produce revenue.

PRESIDENTIAL VOTE, NOV. 3, 1908

	Taft Rep.	Bryan Dem.
1st Ward, 1st Precinct	154	75
2d Precinct	135	75
3d Precinct	130	66
2d Ward, 1st Precinct	57	79
2d Precinct	75	104
3d Precinct	64	69
4th Precinct	128	140
3d Ward, 1st Precinct	143	140
2d Precinct	188	205
3d Precinct	129	84
4th Ward, 1st Precinct	295	156

5th Ward, 1st Precinct	163	127
2d Precinct	127	50
6th Ward, 1st Precinct	128	71
2d Precinct	204	141
3d Precinct	181	244
4th Precinct	97	61
5th Precinct	73	86
7th Ward, 1st Precinct	174	112
2d Precinct	299	126
8th Ward, 1st Precinct	176	133
2d Precinct	217	182
9th Ward, 1st Precinct	78	122
2d Precinct	93	123
3d Precinct	79	133
4th Precinct	80	240
10th Ward, 1st Precinct	138	195
2d Precinct	198	209
11th Ward, 1st Precinct	149	161
2d Precinct	110	225
3d Precinct	122	151
12th Ward, 1st Precinct	118	93
2d Precinct	133	169
3d Precinct	203	264
4th Precinct	132	134
13th Ward, 1st Precinct	143	140
2d Precinct	200	175
3d Precinct	323	309
4th Precinct	170	197
14th Ward, 1st Precinct	169	67
2d Precinct	135	75
3d Precinct	51	40
4th Precinct	225	116
15th Ward, 1st Precinct	149	156
2d Precinct	43	44
3d Precinct	285	126
4th Precinct	269	215
5th Precinct	121	92
16th Ward, 1st Precinct	150	131
2d Precinct	250	140
3d Precinct	172	176
Totals	7,825	6,959
Taft's plurality		866
Roosevelt's plurality over Parker in 1904		3,369

TABLE OF STATISTICS*

READING	Taxables	Real Estate Exempt	Real Estate Taxed	Property Taxable by County	Tax Levied	Money at Interest
1st Ward	1,426	\$ 295,500	\$ 1,855,550	\$1,982,650	\$ 5,948	\$ 754,338
2d Ward	2,235	44,800	2,292,500	2,497,475	7,492	126,085
3d Ward	1,826	2,799,200	3,286,400	3,486,100	10,458	816,515
4th Ward	966	423,000	3,621,050	3,757,600	11,273	1,781,995
5th Ward	1,161	20,000	1,763,325	1,883,465	5,650	600,422
6th Ward	3,373	95,700	3,660,000	3,993,520	11,981	384,732
7th Ward	1,714	1,260,000	5,463,825	5,727,250	17,182	4,626,012
8th Ward	1,567	697,400	2,792,435	2,963,875	8,892	573,006
9th Ward	1,945	390,000	2,078,275	2,269,080	6,807	187,845
10th Ward	1,827	97,000	1,230,820	1,389,055	4,167	91,115
11th Ward	1,921	172,700	1,817,395	1,992,440	5,977	95,632
12th Ward	2,698	104,000	2,392,850	2,645,375	7,936	170,432
13th Ward	4,761	328,450	4,004,490	4,409,180	13,228	170,600
14th Ward	2,476	348,500	4,170,440	4,445,990	13,338	2,142,325
15th Ward	3,315	264,000	3,823,650	4,160,500	12,481	300,012
16th Ward	2,203	507,400	2,660,145	2,884,445	8,653	613,751
Total for City	35,414	\$ 7,835,650	\$46,913,150	\$50,488,000	\$151,463	\$13,434,847
County	31,337	2,835,846	37,709,346	41,807,680	125,476	8,977,902
Total for County	66,751	\$10,681,496	\$84,622,496	\$92,295,680	\$276,939	\$22,412,749

Horses, 2,266; assessed at \$150,010. Cows, 321; assessed at \$1,200.

*Assessment reported by County Commissioners to State, August, 1908.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—1898

	Popu- lation	Taxa- bles	Property Assessment	Total Debt	Tax Rate in Mills		
					City	School	County
Allentown	35,000	9,000	\$19,500,000	\$ 423,200	3 ½	6	2 ½
Easton	20,000		11,000,000	305,900	6 ½	6	2 8
Lancaster	40,000		15,416,646	644,500	9	4	3
Lebanon	16,000	4,738	8,680,000	267,600	4 ½	3 ½	2
Harrisburg	60,000	12,750	24,000,000	1,000,000	7	6	4
Reading	73,000	24,439	*42,085,533	1,352,500	6	4	2 ½
Seranton	106,000	38,789	23,452,916	579,538	12.8	4	7
Wilkes-Barre	55,000	11,200	**7,000,000	464,500	23	18	7
Williamsport	33,000	7,000	9,150,060	729,500	15	7	5

* Not including exempted real estate, \$4,636,650.

** One-fifth valuation.

NUMBER OF BUILDINGS

Statement showing number of buildings in Reading
Dec. 31, 1908:

Brick buildings	18,993
Stone buildings	1,552
Iron and frame	2,195
Iron	402
Cement	37

Grand total.....23,179

The following statement gives a comparative list of the
buildings erected during 1907 and 1908:

WARDS	Stone	Brick	Iron and Frame	Cement	Total, 1908	Total, 1907	No. of Build- ings in Read- ing, 1908
1st	6	6	1		13	7	1,014
2d		2	4		6	10	1,510
3d	1	2	1		4	8	1,218
4th		1	2		3	13	1,009
5th		4			4	4	1,003
6th	9	13	9		31	50	2,526
7th	7	7	2	1	17	3	1,171
8th		4	4	1	9	5	924
9th		2	4		6	37	1,356
10th		10	4		14	20	1,169
11th		17	2	2	21	46	1,376
12th		2	4		6	37	1,642
13th	2	8	11	1	22	139	2,326
14th	2	1	2		5	102	1,508
15th	19	2	5	1	27	153	1,881
16th	2	14	4	1	21	156	1,546
Total	48	95	59	7	209	790	23,179

BUILDINGS, 1908

Statement showing the amount of money invested in the
construction of buildings in the several wards in the city
during 1908:

1st Ward	\$ 20,400
2d Ward	8,775

3d Ward	12,500
4th Ward	30,150
5th Ward	17,500
6th Ward	114,850
7th Ward	64,700
8th Ward	10,650
9th Ward	2,800
10th Ward	20,925
11th Ward	27,500
12th Ward	6,750
13th Ward	19,450
14th Ward	7,550
15th Ward	58,750
16th Ward	36,300

Grand Total.....\$459,950

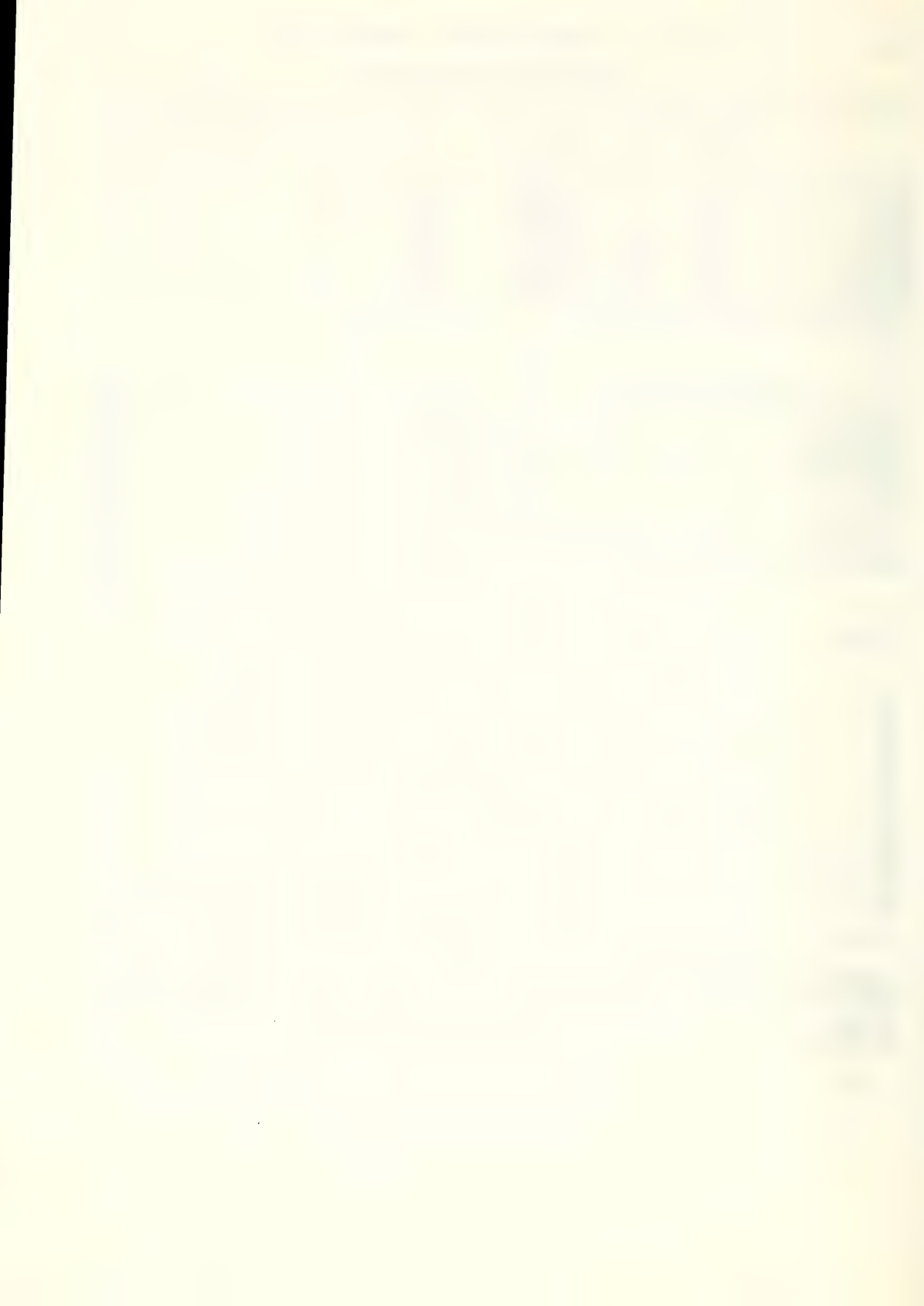
LIQUOR LICENSES FOR 1909

1st Ward	5	10th Ward	4
2d Ward	17	11th Ward	9
3d Ward	19	12th Ward	7
4th Ward	11	13th Ward	13
5th Ward	16	14th Ward	3
6th Ward	14	15th Ward	4
7th Ward	25	16th Ward	5
8th Ward	13		
9th Ward	15		174
In Boroughs			49
In Townships			91

Total314

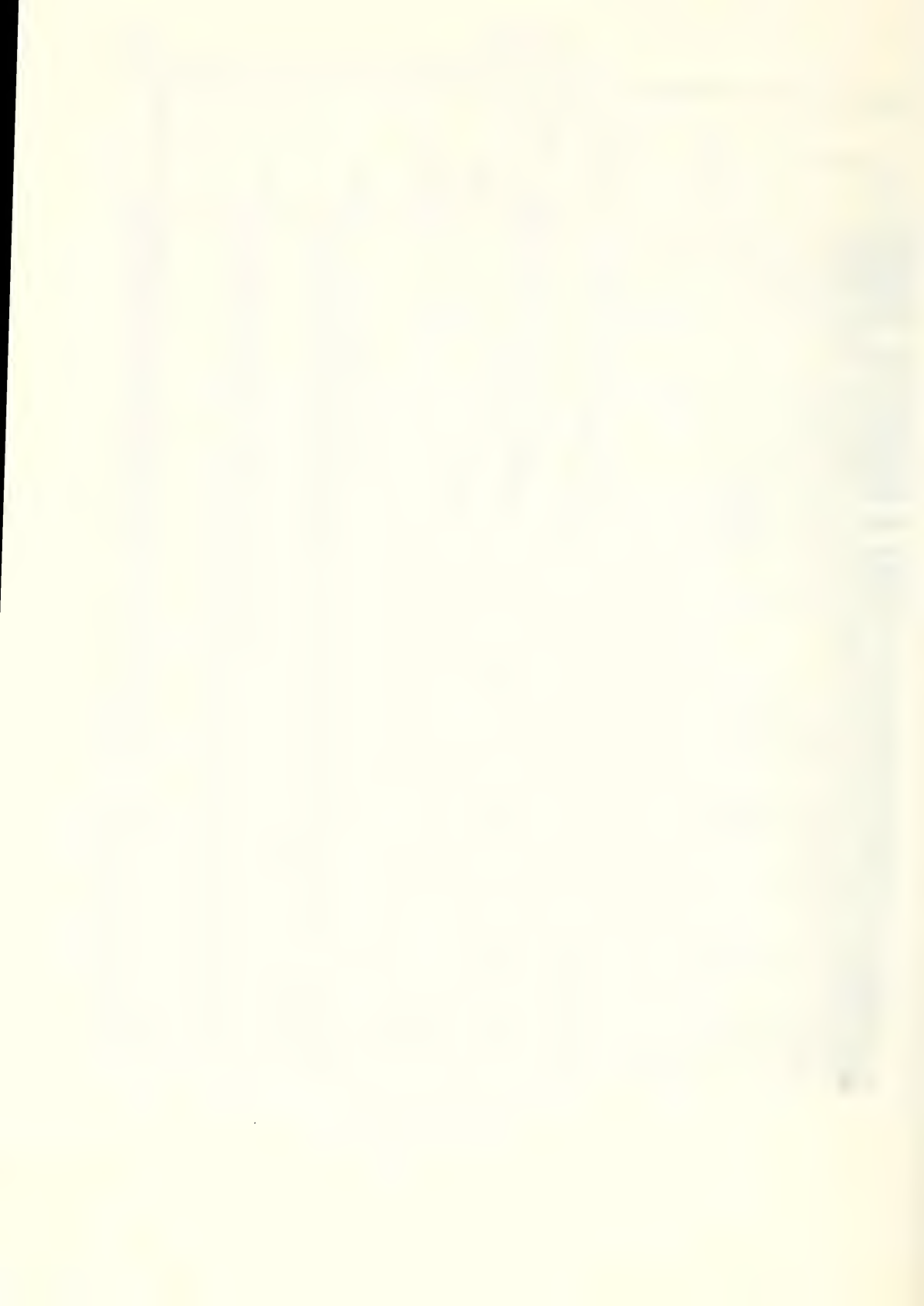
VARIETY AND VALUE OF INDUSTRIES IN 1900.—

The great extent, variety and value of the industrial affairs at Reading in 1900 are exhibited in the accompanying, comprehensive table. The information was secured and published by the Census Department of the United States Government, and it is the first time that this important subject received so much attention at Reading, showing the exact situation as it then existed. It is extremely valuable for reference.



NATURE OF INDUSTRIES, 1900

	Establishments	Males Employed	Females Employed	Children Employed	Capital	Wages	Value of Products
Bicycles	4	354	26	27	\$ 656,816	\$ 165,106	\$ 816,332
Bicycle Repairs	1	17			7,276	2,508	16,306
Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights.....	27	27			21,640	12,721	48,318
Book-binding	3	14	19		27,100	10,671	26,071
Boot and Shoe Repairs.....	52	12	3		21,095	6,612	57,526
Bottling	6	28			63,150	12,478	58,541
Boxes—Cigar	3	35	35	4	67,030	19,892	104,456
Paper	5	26	66	19	66,109	27,444	99,544
Brass Castings	3	15			31,763	9,170	34,503
Bakeries	51	212	2	3	284,713	104,412	501,197
Breweries	6	119			1,032,510	66,361	881,665
Brick and Tile.....	3	19		5	9,750	7,887	17,525
Brooms and Brushes.....	7	35	5	3	27,550	12,805	73,604
Carpenter Shops	47	267			194,492	132,190	782,571
Carpet Works	8	5			11,425	1,910	13,529
Carriages and Wagons.....	12	203			443,721	83,115	307,859
Car Shops	4	1,962			2,069,203	1,045,675	6,315,128
Cigar Factories and Tobacco.....	76	526	541	41	759,497	421,775	1,683,466
Clothing Factories—Men's	4	46	114	12	185,292	52,583	359,771
Women's.....	5	4	39	6	18,465	12,013	55,341
Clothing, Custom—Men's.....	41	129	185	1	236,094	111,594	407,149
Women's.....	11	4	50		9,859	15,109	30,869
Coffee and Spice Roasting.....	3	3			12,158	1,728	24,761
Confectionery	21	191	111	26	164,191	71,076	420,169
Dyeing	4	21			36,771	9,939	32,942
Electrical Construction	6	13			15,311	6,805	61,163
Foundry and Machine.....	27	1,565			2,799,240	681,574	2,437,355
Furniture, etc.	14	18			28,326	9,272	37,010
Hats—Fur	3	498	198	35	623,408	283,009	1,133,688
Wool	4	157	104	34	450,149	126,558	328,150
Hardware	4	1,280	80	227	1,731,544	600,861	1,611,298
Hosiery	21	183	1,184	309	710,128	390,857	1,326,397
Iron and Steel.....	7	3,722			8,132,619	1,612,011	9,590,286
Ironwork—Architectural	4	49			50,663	21,299	113,267
Jewelry	22	25		1	34,326	17,735	46,327
Lime and Cement.....	5	5			950	1,605	6,190
Marble Works	15	108			169,045	55,788	148,217
Masonry—Brick and Stone.....	14	275			87,902	129,945	314,184
Millinery	11	81			64,547	26,136	163,102
Newspapers	10	147	14		391,722	88,999	309,266
Optical Works	3	14	126	4	268,090	31,640	181,770
Painters and Paper Hangers.....	45	167			99,273	73,671	208,586
Paint Works	5	21	2		154,776	9,484	168,846
Paper Factories	3	90	39		549,913	52,621	429,205
Pattern-makers	4	5			7,517	1,728	7,614
Picture Frames	4	7			9,675	2,778	11,195
Paving Materials	9	57			11,911	19,353	57,837
Photography	9	29	17		49,287	16,254	52,116
Planing Mills	5	116			178,949	69,467	302,339
Plastering	8	40			12,179	18,179	43,966
Plumbing, etc.	25	128		2	125,583	58,898	249,163
Pottery and Terra Cotta.....	3	84			248,815	27,011	105,128
Printing	17	54		9	121,607	27,485	99,447
Roofing	8	43			24,945	19,995	73,725
Saddleries	7	15			25,235	6,116	28,261
Shirts	5	3	71		41,456	16,995	76,155
Tin and Copper Smiths.....	38	82		1	158,281	37,585	290,746
Other Industries	67	1,056	675	197	4,154,734	585,200	3,682,006
Reading, 1900	843	24,442	3,706	955	\$27,975,628	\$7,544,950	\$36,992,511
Reading, 1890	435				14,983,574	4,789,479	20,855,163



Other Industries

Other industries of Reading in 1900, as enumerated by the U. S. Census, were as follows:

Artificial Feathers and	Cotton Goods	1
Flowers	Cotton Small Wares	1
Bags—Paper	Cutlery & Edge Tools	1
Baskets and Willow Ware	Dyeing and Cleaning	1
Boots & Shoes—Factory	Electroplating	1
Boxes—Wood Packing	Fancy Articles	1
Brassware	Flour-mill	1
Carriage and Wagon	Food Preparations	1
Material	Furnishing Goods for	1
Cars—Street Ry., etc.	Men	1
Cheese & Butter	Gas Illuminating	1
Condensed Milk	Glass	1
Cordage & Twine	Glass, Ornamental, etc.	1

Grease and Tallow	1	Regalia and Society	
Hairwork	1	Banners	1
Hand Stamps	1	Sewing Machine Repairs	1
Hats and Caps	2	Silk Mill	1
House Furnishing Goods	2	Slaughtering and Meat	
Ice	1	Packing	1
Iron Bolts and Nuts	1	Soap	1
Iron and Steel Forgings	1	Stereotyping, etc.	1
Lamps and Reflectors	1	Tobacco, Chewing, etc.	2
Leather Curried, etc.	1	Toys and Games	1
Lock and Gun Smith	1	Trunks and Valises	1
Malt	1	Umbrellas	1
Mattress	1	Washing Machines	1
Mirrors	1	Window Shades	1
Patent Medicines	1	Wire-rope, Cable, etc.	1
Photolithographing, etc.	1	Wood Carving	1
		Woolen Goods	1

CHAPTER XI—BOROUGHES

ERECTION

The county of Berks was erected in 1752. All the districts in the county at that time were townships, the simplest form of local government, and it was not until 1783 that the first borough was established. This was Reading, the county-seat, and it was erected by a special Act of Assembly. The next was Kutztown, in 1815, situated sixteen miles northeast from Reading, and the third was Womelsdorf, in 1833, fourteen miles west from Reading; which were also established by Act of Assembly.

In 1834, the State Legislature empowered the courts of Quarter Sessions of the several counties, with the concurrence of a grand jury, to establish boroughs, but the territory to be set apart was to include three hundred inhabitants; this was modified by the Act of 1851, since when application and decree have been made without regard to population. From that time, the boroughs in the county have been established in this manner, and until 1909, fifteen additional boroughs have been created.

Reading was advanced to a city in 1847, but no other borough in the county has been similarly advanced.

The boroughs are seventeen in number. The following table shows their names, when established, the taxables, the voters and assessment of property. Other facts might be mentioned in connection with the several boroughs, especially of an industrial nature, but they have been omitted to avoid repetition, because they are mentioned in the sketches of resident patrons of this work.

General statistical information relating to the boroughs will be found in the tables which include the whole county, in Chapter IX.

COMPARATIVE TABLE—1908

BOROUGHES	Founded	Erected	Taxables	Voters	Assessment
<i>Eastern Division</i>					
Kutztown	1770	1815	658	486	\$ 799,175
Hamburg	1779	1837	912	675	951,910
Boyetown	1835	1866	761	592	1,188,441
Fleetwood*	1800	1873	397	364	609,514
Topton	1859	1875	297	219	347,250
Lenhartsville	1854	1887	55	46	65,410
Bechtelsville	1852	1890	77	119	137,485
Mount Penn**	1800	1902	277	200	426,705
<i>Western Division</i>					
Womelsdorf	1762	1833	608	375	552,439
Bernville	1819	1851	151	111	135,310
Birdsboro	1760	1872	885	731	1,246,204
Centreport	1865	1884	48	32	48,910
West Leesport	1842	1901	129	136	154,275
Wyomissing	1896	1906	626	205	774,809
West Reading	1873	1907	598	483	658,725
Mohnton	1850	1907	495	405	338,910
Shillington†	1860	1908	461	387	421,765

* Formerly Coxtown.
 ** Formerly Dengler's.
 † May, 1909.

INDUSTRIES

CIGARS.—The manufacture of cigars is a large industry in all parts of the county. Nearly one hundred establishments are carried on in the county districts, almost wholly in the boroughs. The largest plants, producing over 500,000 annually, are:

Christian Brothers, in Womelsdorf.
 John J. Eshelman, in Mohnton.
 Otto Eisenlohr & Bro., in Boyertown.
 H. F. Fidler, in Womelsdorf.
 George Gruber, in Stouchsburg.
 W. H. Goodman, in Millersburg.

Henry Hackman, in Womelsdorf.
 Kramer Brothers, in Shillington.
 C. S. Peiffer, in Stouchsburg.
 Pioneer Union Cigar Company, in Shillington.
 John J. Seiz, in Stony Creek.
 A. S. Valentine & Son, in Womelsdorf.
 C. M. Yetter, in Shillington.

STATEMENT OF BANKS

The following statement exhibits the financial condition of the banks in the boroughs in November, 1908.

Borough	Established	Capital	Resources	Deposits	Surplus and Und. Profits
Bernville	1907	\$ 25,000	\$ 122,462	\$ 81,405	\$ 2,973
Birdsboro	1888	50,000	358,896	177,844	81,852
Boyetown					
National	1874	100,000	1,118,378	690,760	196,713
Farmers	1883	50,000	267,006	162,756	4,729
Fleetwood	1907	25,000	143,675	90,479	3,296
Hamburg					
Savings	1872	50,000	642,710	495,232	97,300
First Nat'l.	1903	25,000	129,818	78,176	1,509
Kutztown	1897	50,000	448,262	250,404	86,187
Mohnton	1907	25,000	137,702	91,422	1,270
Topton	1906	25,000	137,484	82,750	3,875
Womelsdorf	1903	50,000	405,985	316,352	35,159

MERCANTILE LICENSES

The mercantile appraiser, John G. Herbine, appointed by the county commissioners for the year 1909, reported the business places in the several boroughs of Berks county, liable to county tax, their number being as follows:

Bechtelsville	14	Shillington	20
Bernville	19	Topton	20
Birdsboro	49	West Leesport	10
Boyetown	70	West Reading	30
Centreport	6	Womelsdorf	29
Fleetwood	32	Wyomissing	18
Hamburg	61		
Kutztown	65		491
Lenhartsville	12	Reading	1,546
Mohnton	12	Townships	894
Mount Penn	11		
		Total	2,931

LIQUOR LICENSES

Bernville	2	Mohnton	2
Birdsboro	3	Mt. Penn	2
Boyetown	4	Shillington	1
Bechtelsville	2	Topton	3
Centreport	0	Womelsdorf	4
Fleetwood	4	West Reading	2
Hamburg	8	West Leesport	2
Kutztown	6	Wyomissing	2
Lenhartsville	2		49

CHURCHES OF BOROUGHHS

LUTHERAN AND REFORMED

(L, indicating Lutheran; R., Reformed; and U., Union, both using the church, alternately.)

Borough	Name	Founded	Pastor	Members
Bechtelsville:				
Trinity (U.),		1886	George W. Roth (R.), J. J. Kline (L.),	65

Bernville:

Name	Founded	Pastor	Members
Friedens (L.),	1739-1791-1897	(Vacant)	
St. Thomas (U.),	1897	T. C. Leinbach (R.),	450

Birdsboro:

St. Paul's (R.),	1881	J. V. George,	30
St. Mark's (L.),	1877	Z. H. Gable,	230
Chapel	1890		

Boyetown:

St. John's (L.),	1811	A. M. Weber,	1,046
(Union, 1811 to 1871)			
Good Shepherd (R.),	1871	G. G. Greenwald,	428

Fleetwood:

St. Paul's (U.),	1841	M. H. Brensinger (R.),	840
Chapel (U.),	1884	J. O. Henry (L.),	375

Hamburg:

St. John's (L.),	1789-1811-1873-1898	H. C. Kline,	571
(Union from 1789 to 1898, when destroyed by fire and rebuilt by Lutherans.)			
First (R.),	1898	(Vacant),	312

Kutztown:

St. Paul's (R.),		G. B. Smith,	1,120
St. John's (U.),	1753 1790-1876	E. H. Leirbach (R.),	451
		J. J. Cressman (L.),	315
Trinity (L.),	1874-1894	R. B. Lynch,	296

Lenhartsville

Friedens (U.),	1856 1892	R. S. Appel (R.),	110
		D. D. Trexler (L.),	110

Mohnton:

St. John's (L.),	1900	M. H. Stetler,	393
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Mt. Penn:

Faith (L.),	1855	J. F. Snyder,	93
Trinity (R.),		M. L. Herheim,	112

Shillington:

Emanuel (R.),	1874-1908	W. J. Kershner,	80
Grace (L.),	1902	F. F. Buernmyer,	40

Topton:

St. Peter's (U.),	1839-1881	G. B. Smith (R.),	120
		J. O. Henry (L.),	

West Reading:

St. James (R.),	1893	George W. Gerhard,	204
Bethany (L.),	1896	W. O. Laub,	238

Womelsdorf:

Zion's (U.),	1793-1867-1895	L. D. Stanbough (R.),	245
		O. E. Fluenger, (L.),	557

Wyomissing:

Reformed	1900	H. H. Rupp	
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OTHER CHURCHES

MENNONITE

Boyetown: Old,	1790-1810-1870	J. Andrew Mack (John Elst)	
New,	1883	A. S. Shelly,	26

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL

Birdsboro	1852-1885	Francis Yarnall,	145
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METHODIST EPISCOPAL

Birdsboro	1839-1869	A. F. Collom,	185
Boyetown	1876	F. Herson,	54
Hamburg	1854	E. F. Hoffman,	113
			352

EVANGELICAL

Birdsboro (Trinity),	1904	R. W. Luckenbill,	150
Mohnton (Salem),	1819-1872	F. Solver,	145

UNITED EVANGELICAL

Birdsboro	1874-1895	George S. Kaufiroth,	155
Boyetown	18 -- 1895	C. W. Hoffman,	65
Fleetwood	1866-1895	C. E. Hess,	161
Hamburg	1872-1895	(L. J. Reitz (A. S. Mangel	
Kutztown	1850-1885-1895	H. J. Kline,	125
Mohnton	1895	J. R. Hensyl,	303
Shillington	1904	C. D. Haman,	125
Topton	1895	J. R. Hensyl,	303
West Leesport	1872-1895	(L. J. Reitz (A. S. Mangel	
Womelsdorf	1825-1867-1895	F. P. Yocum	

UNITED BRETHREN

Name	Founded
Birdsboro	1889
CHURCH OF GOD	
Fleetwood (United),	1868

SCHOOL AFFAIRS—1908

Borough	No. of Schools	Male Scholars	Female Scholars	Cost	State Appropriations
Bechtelsville	2	151	129	\$ 1,176	320
Bernville	2	22	24	1,369	337
Birdsboro	11	236	222	10,206	1,988
Boyetown	9	185	217	7,695	1,561
Centreport	1	14	19	429	120
Fleetwood	5	103	120	4,808	707
Hamburg	12	240	226	16,110	1,866
Kutztown	4	97	106	5,220	1,041
Lenhartsville	1	11	12	517	137
Mohnton	7	148	151	4,361	1,909
Mount Penn	3	73	62	2,774	495
Shillington *					
Topton	3	77	65	2,773	513
West Leesport	3	30	43	1,549	424
West Reading	7	161	144	4,323	2,022
Womelsdorf	6	89	124	5,195	981
Wyomissing	3	52	65	30,486	859

* Established after report published and appropriations made.

ODD FELLOWS

Lodge No.	Borough	Members	Value of Property
122	Bernville	65	\$ 4,000
514	Birdsboro	295	7,000
708	Boyetown	118	1,500
103	Hamburg	260	12,000
159	Womelsdorf	160	2,000
			\$26,500
Reading, seven lodges			73,752
Townships, eleven lodges			36,400
			\$136,692

P. O. S. OF A. CAMPS

No.	Borough	Members	Value of Property
67	Womelsdorf	136	\$ 7,440
78	Hamburg	321	11,901
103	Fleetwood	180	6,994
104	Boyetown	224	8,668
113	Bernville	207	10,270
172	Topton	211	6,262
211	Mohnton	233	7,791
324	Bechtelsville	130	5,931
417	Birdsboro	293	11,134
446	Centreport	116	3,393
531	Lenhartsville	64	1,670
			2,115
Camps at Reading (11)			3,835
Camps in townships (28)			3,419
			9,369
			\$43,004

KUTZTOWN

INCORPORATION.—Kutztown was the second borough erected in Berks county, Reading having been the first. It was incorporated by a special Act of Assembly in 1815, the Act having been framed after the Act of 1783, by which Reading was incorporated. It is situated in the northeastern section of the county along the Sacony creek, and the territory within the boundary lines was taken from Maxatawny township.

The lands in this vicinity, embracing one thousand acres, were patented to Peter Wentz in 1728; and he, in 1755, conveyed 130 acres to George Kutz. In 1779, Kutz laid out a town and named it Kutztown, and soon afterward the first dwellings were erected. In 1817, there were 106 taxables, with a total valuation of \$56,465. The tax-rate was $1\frac{1}{2}$ mills. In 1835, there were 159 taxables; 105 dwellings; 800 population. In 1908, there were 622 resident taxables, with a total valuation of \$670,500.

Proceedings were instituted in the council to add to the borough the improved and connected portions of Maxatawny township which adjoin it on the east, north and west, comprising 567 acres and making the total area of the borough 742 acres; and these proceedings were filed in court on March 1, 1909, for legal action.

TAXABLES OF 1817.—The first list of taxable inhabitants of the borough was prepared in 1817, and the following list comprises their names, with their rating, numbering altogether 106:

Angstadt, Joseph, gunsmith	\$ 20
Balty, Jacob, Sr., blacksmith	592
Biehl, Daniel, tinner	905
Balty, Jacob, Jr., blacksmith	32
Bryfogel, George, Sr., farmer	932
Busby, Samuel, shoemaker	20
Bieber, Dewald, merchant	1,617
Bast, Dewald, farmer	2,904
Becker, Ephraim, doctor	705
Barner, Michael	390
Benjamin, John, hatter	20
Cupp, Conrad, town-crier	600
Cupp, Andrew	150
Cupp, Christian, cabinet-maker	20
Dennis, John, shoemaker	752
Dum, Thomas	812
Deisher, John	350
Dennis, Jacob	
Ernst, Nicholas, farmer	1,122
Essert, Jacob, cabinet-maker	1,384
Essert, Daniel, cabinet-maker	20
Essert, George, cabinet-maker	20
Fister, George, inn-keeper	1,572
Fister, John, saddler	20
Fritz, Peter, cabinet-maker	532
Gross, Joseph	92
Geehr, Philip, Esq., justice	32
Giffit Peter, clock-maker	102
Geehr, Benjamin, saddler	20
Graeff, Jacob, blacksmith	760
Grube, Christina	350
Glasser, Daniel, hatter	420
Geschwind, John	
Geehr, Samuel and Levan, Jacob	580
Grin, Jonathan	2,852

Geisweit, Peter, laborer.....	32
Herbine, Samuel, cooper.....	954
Humberd, Jacob, carpenter.....	32
Hottenstine, Catharine.....	682
Heist, Henry.....	962
Heist, Hannah, widow.....	500
Heninger, John, shoemaker.....	832
Harmony, Benjamin, tailor.....	32
Jung, John, laborer.....	20
Kutz, Peter, tinnian.....	1,272
Kutz, Adam, carpenter.....	1,762
Kutz, Jacob, mason.....	32
Knoske, John, minister.....	772
Keaffer, Joseph.....	302
Kutz, John, tailor.....	1,077
Keiser, Joseph.....	1,037
Kutz, Peter, Revolutionary soldier.....	1,209
Kutz, Daniel.....	462
Kemp, George, Jr.....	900
Kohler, Henry, proprietor of Kutztown Hotel.....	1,600
Klein, Philip.....	500
Kaup, Andrew, wheelwright.....	20
Klein, Jacob, tailor.....	20
Klein, Isaac.....	430
Keller, Israel, shoemaker.....	20
Kutz, Solomon, butcher.....	722
Kister, George, tailor.....	820
Keiser, Jacob, weaver.....	432
Levan, Jacob, Esq.....	1,107
Levan, Daniel, inn-keeper.....	1,602
Levan, Jacob, inn-keeper.....	1,923
Lehman, Jacob, tinnian.....	20
Levan, Charles, inn-keeper.....	95
Levan, Isaac, inn-keeper.....	44
McCandless, Robert.....	—
Neff, John, mason.....	1,494
Nevel, Jacob, laborer.....	—
Neff, Henry, mason.....	692
Neff, Peter.....	1,464
Neudorf, Susanna, widow.....	420
Owerbeck, Jacob, tobacconist.....	140
Old, Gabriel, carpenter.....	32
Palsgrove, John, weaver.....	834
Rudenauer, Samuel.....	52
Reifsnnyder, Abram.....	20
Rever, Adam.....	760
Sharadin, John, hatter.....	1,672
Sander, Henry.....	820
Strasser, Michael, carpenter.....	70
Seigfried, John, Sr.....	490
Seigfried, John, Jr.....	50
Selfridge, Mathias, merchant.....	32
Schofield, Ebenezer, shoemaker.....	232
Smith, Catharine (estate of).....	300
Till, Jacob, teacher.....	40
Wolff, Peter, laborer.....	20
Wickert, Jacob, tailor.....	20
Wilson, Motheral.....	2,110
Winck, Dewald, hatter.....	744
Wanner, Abram, hatter.....	1,052

Rate of taxation, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mills on the dollar.

Single Freeman, each 75 cents

Bast, Jacob	Mehrman, William
Becker, Samuel	Owerback, Henry
Becker, Benjamin	O'Neal, David
Essert, Jacob	Odenheimer, George
Glasser, Jonathan	Smith, James
Harmony, Jonathan	
Total valuation.....	\$56,465

Houses, 69; horses, 47; cows, 63.

GEORGE BREYFOGLE, Assessor.

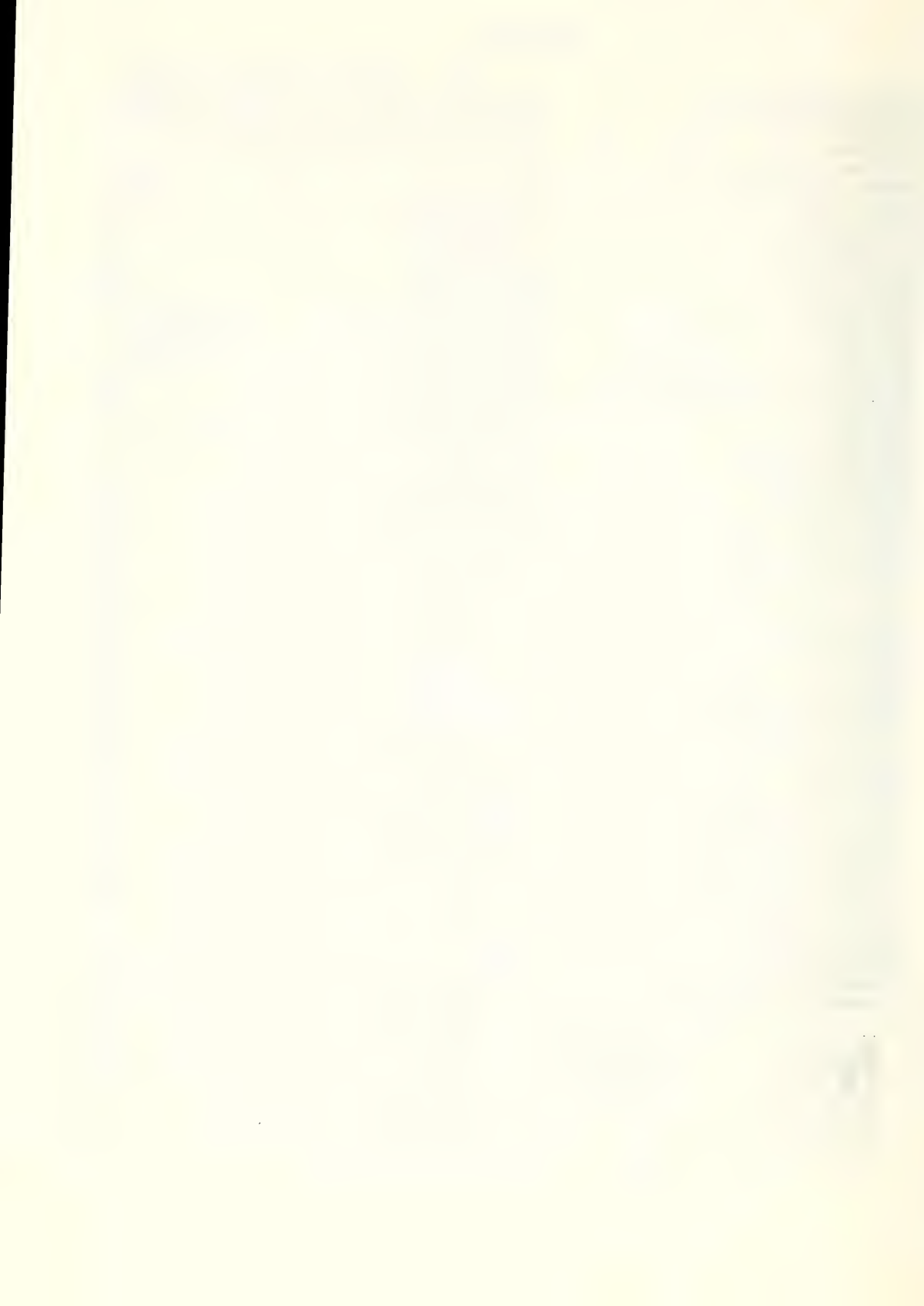
LIST OF OFFICIALS.—The names of the chief burgesses, town clerks and justices of the peace from the beginning of the borough to the present time, and the time when the incumbents filled their respective positions, are as follows:

CHIEF BURGESSES

Dewalt Bieber.....	1816-17
Daniel Levan.....	1818
George Breyfogle.....	1819-21
Henry Heist.....	1822
John Kutz.....	1823
Jonathan Prime.....	1824
John Palsgrove.....	1825-26; 1831
Jacob Esser.....	1827
Geo. A. Odenheimer.....	1828
John Fister.....	1829; 1832; 1834-35; 1854
Daniel Bieber.....	1830; 1846; 1848
Peter Giff.....	1833; 1837
William Heidenreich.....	1836; 1842-43; 1847
George Bieber.....	1838-39; 1845
John V. Houck.....	1840
Dr. William Bieber.....	1841
Jacob Graeff.....	1844; 1852
David Fister.....	1849; 1865-67; 1871
Daniel B. Kutz.....	1850; 1855
David Levan.....	1851
Reuben Sharadin.....	1853
Fayette Schaedler.....	1856
Hiram F. Bickel.....	1857-58
J. S. Trexler.....	1859
B. H. Kutz.....	1860
William Helfrich.....	1861
Jacob Sunday.....	1862
C. H. Wanner.....	1863-64
Paul Hilbert.....	1868-69
John Humbert.....	1870
Lewis Hottenstein.....	1872
J. D. Wanner.....	1873-74
David Hinterleiter.....	1875
S. S. Schmehl.....	1876
John M. Graeff.....	1877
R. Dewalt.....	1878
Walter B. Bieber.....	1879-80
D. W. Sharadin.....	1881-82
D. F. Bieber.....	1883-86
J. D. Sharadin.....	1887
Jacob B. Esser.....	1888
Dewalt F. Bieber.....	1889
Reuben Dewalt.....	1890
Conrad Gehring.....	1891-97
John R. Gouser.....	1897-1900
Charles D. Herman.....	1900-03
Charles J. G. Christian.....	1903-06
Jeremiah T. Fritch.....	1906-09
H. W. Saul.....	1909-12

TOWN CLERKS

James Scull.....	1816-17
John Fister.....	1818-19
James Donagan.....	1820-23; 1825-32; 1834
Lloyd Wharton.....	1824
Henry Heist.....	1833
George Bieber.....	1835-36
Wm. F. Sellers.....	1837-40
David Neff.....	1841-42
George Hartzell.....	1843
Wm. S. Bieber.....	1844-51; 1853
Henry C. Kutz.....	1852
James M. Gehr.....	1854; 1859
H. B. Van Scheltz.....	1855
J. David Wanner.....	1856-58; 1860-66; 1871; 1879; 1881-96



A. C. Beidelman.....	1867
H. H. Schwartz.....	1868-70; 1873-74
Jonas Hoch.....	1872
E. D. Bieber.....	1875
J. H. Marx.....	1876-78; 1880; 1899-1901
Oliver H. Sander.....	1897
Dr. Henry W. Saul.....	1898
Charles H. Wanner.....	1902
Albert S. Heffner.....	1903-20

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Jacob Levan.....	1814-23
Benjamin Gehr.....	1818
James Donagan.....	1820
John Wanner.....	1820-23
Lloyd Wharton.....	1828
Henry Heist.....	1840-45
Jacob Graeff.....	1840-44
Charles Weirman.....	1844-47
William S. Bieber.....	1845-55
John B. Scheutz.....	1847-52
H. B. Von Scheutz.....	1852-56
James M. Gehr.....	1855-60
J. Daniel Warner.....	1856-67
Charles W. Esser.....	1860-64
Hiram H. Schwartz.....	1864-83
Allen K. Hottenstein.....	1867-71
John Humbert.....	1871-76; 1883-94
John H. Marx.....	1876-1906
A. S. Heffner.....	1894-1904
H. S. Sharadin.....	1906-11
A. J. Rhode.....	1904-09
George H. Smith.....	1905-14

POSTMASTERS

The postmasters for the past thirty years have been:

Jonathan Bieber.....	
Christian Bieber.....	
William Sander.....	1885-89; 1893-97
Michael T. Donmoyer.....	1899-93
John P. S. Fenstermacher.....	Since 1897

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

<i>Chief Burgess,</i>	Dr. H. W. Saul
<i>Town Council,</i>	L. A. Stein, President
	James S. Heffner
	Nicholas M. Kahn
	William F. Stimmel
	Stephen W. Keinert
	William B. Schaeffer
	Pierce Schell
	A. S. Heffner, Clerk
<i>School Board,</i>	Walter B. Bieber, President
	George C. Bordner, Secretary
	A. W. Fritch, Treasurer
	George Glasser
	Dr. N. Z. Dunkelberger
	John H. Bario
<i>Auditors,</i>	C. L. Gruber
	J. H. Marx
	A. F. DeLong
<i>Assessor,</i>	Llewellyn Angstadt
<i>Collector,</i>	Charles A. Frey
<i>Treasurer,</i>	N. S. Schmehl
<i>Justices of the Peace,</i>	Howard S. Sharadin
	George H. Smith
<i>Constable,</i>	Charles Glasser
<i>Board of Health,</i>	Dr. E. K. Steckel, President
	Solon A. Stein, Secretary
	George H. Smith, Treasurer
	Fred T. Williamson
	David James, Health Officer

INDUSTRIES.—The place being inland, for nearly one hundred years its development was slow. Var-

ious trades incident to every community were carried on with more or less activity, but without any marked improvement. Some establishments were operated for a number of years and then discontinued. The introduction of the steam railway in 1870 was a great assistance. The East Penn railroad was opened for travel from Reading to Allentown in 1859, and in 1870 a branch was constructed from Topton to Kutztown. This facility for the shipment of goods stimulated manufactures and the erection of different kinds of shops and factories. This industrial activity has been kept up with increasing success until the present time. In 1909 all the places employed about four hundred hands, and their productions were sent to all parts of the United States.

Establishments

Sharadin Shirt Factory (1896), 30 to 35 hands; carried on by Howard Sharadin from 1896 to 1902; by his brother Francis from 1902 to 1907; and by S. Liebowitz since 1907.

H. K. Deisher Knitting Mill (1890), 45 to 50 hands.

Kutztown Creamery Company (1881-1907); milk depot established near railroad station in 1907 by Charles M. Richardson (Bernville).

Wentz Marble Works, 15 to 20 hands; carried on by father, Philip, until 1895, and since by his son William as Wentz & Co.

Keystone Shoe Factory (1885), 100 hands; carried on by Dr. J. S. Trexler, William Stimmel and Charles Miller until 1902, and since by Lewis Stein.

Sacony Shoe Factory, Inc. (1897), 40 hands.

James S. Heffner Roller Flour Mill (1887); also lumber, coal and grain.

Kutztown Foundry and Machine Works, Inc. (1896), 90 to 110 hands.

U. B. Kettner Paper Box Factory (1906), 10 to 12 hands; carried on by Charles Ahn from 1906 to 1907.

R. Miller's Son Carriage Factory, 10 to 12 hands; Richard Miller started before 1850, and succeeded by son Charles.

Bieber's Brick Yard, 10 to 15 hands; started by Jonathan Bieber before 1860, and succeeded by son William.

Stimmel Brick-Yard (1906), 20 to 30 hands; brick machinery driven by steam.

Kutztown Silk Mill (1900), 70 to 80 hands; started by Hartley Brothers and operated until 1907, and since by the Merchants' Silk Company.

And then there were at Kutztown, besides the industries named, the following:

Cigar factories.....2	Hat and shoe stores.....4
Blacksmith shops.....2	General stores.....5
Wheelwright shops.....3	Department store.....1
Carpet weaving shop.....1	Printing office.....1
Book-making factories.....2	Hotels.....7
Millinery shops.....5	Law office.....1
Hardware stores.....2	

Physicians	5	Drug store	1
Dentists	2	Amusement Halls	2

BANK.—A national bank was organized at Kutztown in 1871 and carried on twelve years, when it was removed to Reading and there re-organized as the Keystone National Bank. In 1897, another national bank was organized in the borough under the name of Kutztown National Bank, with a capital of \$50,000, and it has been carried on in a very successful manner. In June, 1906, the total resources were \$458,480; par value of shares of stock, \$100, market value, \$218; loans and discounts, \$269,598; deposits, \$276,745; surplus and profits, \$65,966. John R. Gonser has been the president since its organization; and O. P. Grimley the cashier. In 1908, the bank erected a superior building with an attractive sandstone front and all the latest improvements for protection against fire and burglary, at a cost of \$20,000. The directors took possession in February, 1909, and its financial status then was as follows: Resources, \$464,388; deposits, \$278,434; surplus and undivided profits, \$86,000.

A new State bank is about being established in the borough by the name of the Farmers' Bank of Kutztown, with a capital of \$50,000.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Water Supply.—In 1889, the Kutztown Water Company was organized and incorporated by Dr. J. S. Trexler, Sell D. Kutz, J. Daniel Sharadin and Peter D. Wanner for supplying the town with water. They established a reservoir on Kutz's Hill, a mile west of the town, with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons, and put down mains to and through the borough. The water was secured from springs, Kemp's run, and an artesian well, 800 feet deep, with a flowing daily capacity of 100,000 gallons. Dr. Trexler was president of the company until his death in 1902; and Mr. Wanner has officiated since. Theretofore, wells had been used by the residents from the beginning of the place.

Light.—In 1905, the council established a municipal electric light plant to supply the borough with light along the public highways. Previously, coal-oil lamps had been used. Many persons have adopted its use in their dwellings and business places.

Railroad.—Railroad communication was opened with Kutztown from Topton in 1870. From 1859 to that time the nearest railroad station was Lyons, on the East Penn railroad, to which place the residents went by conveyance for the purpose of visiting Reading to the westward by train, and Allentown to the eastward.

A railroad had been projected from Allentown, by way of Kutztown to Hamburg and Auburn, in 1854, and subsequently the road-bed was partially constructed between Kutztown and Hamburg, but never completed. The embankments and

excavations are still visible at numerous places along the route, evidencing the fruitless expenditure of large sums of money in behalf of an attempted establishment of this much needed enterprise.

Previous to 1857 the mode of public travel to and from this place was by stage-coach, and its daily arrival and departure were a matter of much interest to the community.

Streets.—The principal streets have been macadamized, but no modern paving with vitrified brick or asphaltum has been introduced as yet. The Act of 1815, establishing this borough, was found defective in respect to the improvement of streets, and therefore nothing was done in this behalf for forty years. In 1854, by petition to court, the provisions of the amended Act of 1851, relating to boroughs, were accepted; and in 1855 an ordinance was passed by the council to effect this local improvement, but it was enforced more especially for securing better sidewalks.

Trolley Lines.—A street railway line was opened for travel from Kutztown to Allentown in 1902, and from that time dwellings began to be erected in Maxatawny township, east of the Sacony creek, forming until 1909 a large and valuable addition to the borough, though beyond its boundary line. In 1903, a trolley line was extended to the borough from Reading, thereby opening through travel from Reading to Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton, via Kutztown.

Similar building operations have been carried on beyond the western limits of the borough, opposite the Keystone State Normal School, making that section also very attractive. As elsewhere, the influence of this railway has been felt in the general development of the place. A powerhouse was established at Kutztown in 1902, and this has supplied the power to and from Trexlerstown, and to and from Temple since the extension from Reading.

Fire Protection.—An association was incorporated in 1844 for the purpose of affording protection to the inhabitants of the borough against fire, and the necessary apparatus was procured. In 1871, the borough council erected a building for the apparatus. The association was not regularly kept up until recently; then a reorganization was effected and a new building is being put up, costing \$7,000. When an alarm of fire is given, the community respond in general and all able-bodied men are expected to lend their aid in extinguishing the fire. Fortunately no costly fires have arisen to require organized effort under expert direction. The pressure of water from the reservoir is strong owing to the elevation of the water-supply. The fire apparatus consists of two hand-engines, hose-carriage, and hook and ladder truck.

Fair-Ground.—A local fair-ground, situated on the south side of the borough, was carried on by a society for upward of thirty years from 1870.

Then the society was obliged to vacate the premises, and it purchased a superior site on the north. In 1905, it erected the necessary buildings and constructed a fine half-mile track; and in the fall of that year the first exhibition was given on the new ground.

Park.—A large park, comprising ten acres, was established in 1903 by a private corporation. It is situated in the eastern addition to the borough, along the main thoroughfare to Allentown, and since then it has attracted much public attention. It has been improved by the planting of selected shade trees and shrubbery under the supervision of H. K. Deisher, who served as a director for a time and continues an active interest in the welfare of the park. A ball-field is included in the park improvement.

The small monument, which had been erected before the Keystone State Normal School in 1876, was removed to the park in 1906.

Auditorium.—An improved and modern amusement hall was provided by the Kutztown Auditorium Company in 1907, and a superior brick building was erected and equipped at a cost of \$30,000, with a seating capacity of one thousand persons, which has been well patronized by the community.

A frame music hall, with a seating capacity of five hundred, was established in 1890, and various entertainments there have been much encouraged.

Band of Music.—A band of music has been maintained at Kutztown for many years, which developed a great reputation for the rendition of classical music in a superior manner. The instructors and leaders have been James Sander, Henry Druckenmiller, Theophilus Wagonhorst and Preston Wagonhorst.

BATTALIONS.—Kutztown was a prominent center for seventy years after the Revolution in the matter of assembling of the local militia companies for the purpose of keeping up familiarity with military exercise, and the day was commonly known as "Battalion Day." Multitudes of people went from the surrounding districts for ten miles to witness the exhibition and the day came to be recognized as a holiday for amusement and hilarity. The following announcement made in 1831 will give a correct idea of its character at that time, over seventy-five years ago:

"The yearly fair will be held August 12th and 13th, 1831. Persons fond of military parade will see Capt. Grim's company of Horse, and Capt. Bicher's company of Infantry, and the Kutztown Band of Music parade on these days. Shows and pastimes of all kinds will be exhibited. Hucksters will be well provided with beer, mead, sweet-meats, and all the fruits in season. The youth are informed that there will be an abundance of good music, and plenty of pretty girls to dance to it."

For some years after the Revolution, these annual meetings in May and September were recognized as of a serious nature in order to maintain a preparation for war in time of peace, but then they gradually drifted away from its bene-

ficient purpose. By 1840, more especially by 1850, they had come to be particular occasions for revelry and dissipation; and this peculiar character was observable all over the county. They were discontinued before the Civil war.

CULTIVATION OF GINSENG.—The cultivation of ginseng at Kutztown was begun by Henry K. Deisher in 1904 and he has been very successful. The beds cover several acres of ground situated at the rear of the premises, where he resides on Noble street, and they contain upward of fifty thousand roots. He is also cultivating beds several miles from Kutztown which contain upward of fifteen thousand roots.

NEWSPAPERS.—The *Kutztown Journal*, a German newspaper, was begun in 1870 by Isaac F. Christ and published by him until 1875, when Conrad Gehring and A. B. Ulrich became the purchasers. In 1877, Mr. Gehring bought the interest of Mr. Ulrich and continued publishing the paper until 1887, when he sold the plant, including a book and wall-paper store, to Jacob B. Esser, who had learned the printing business there; and Mr. Esser has continued its successful publication until now.

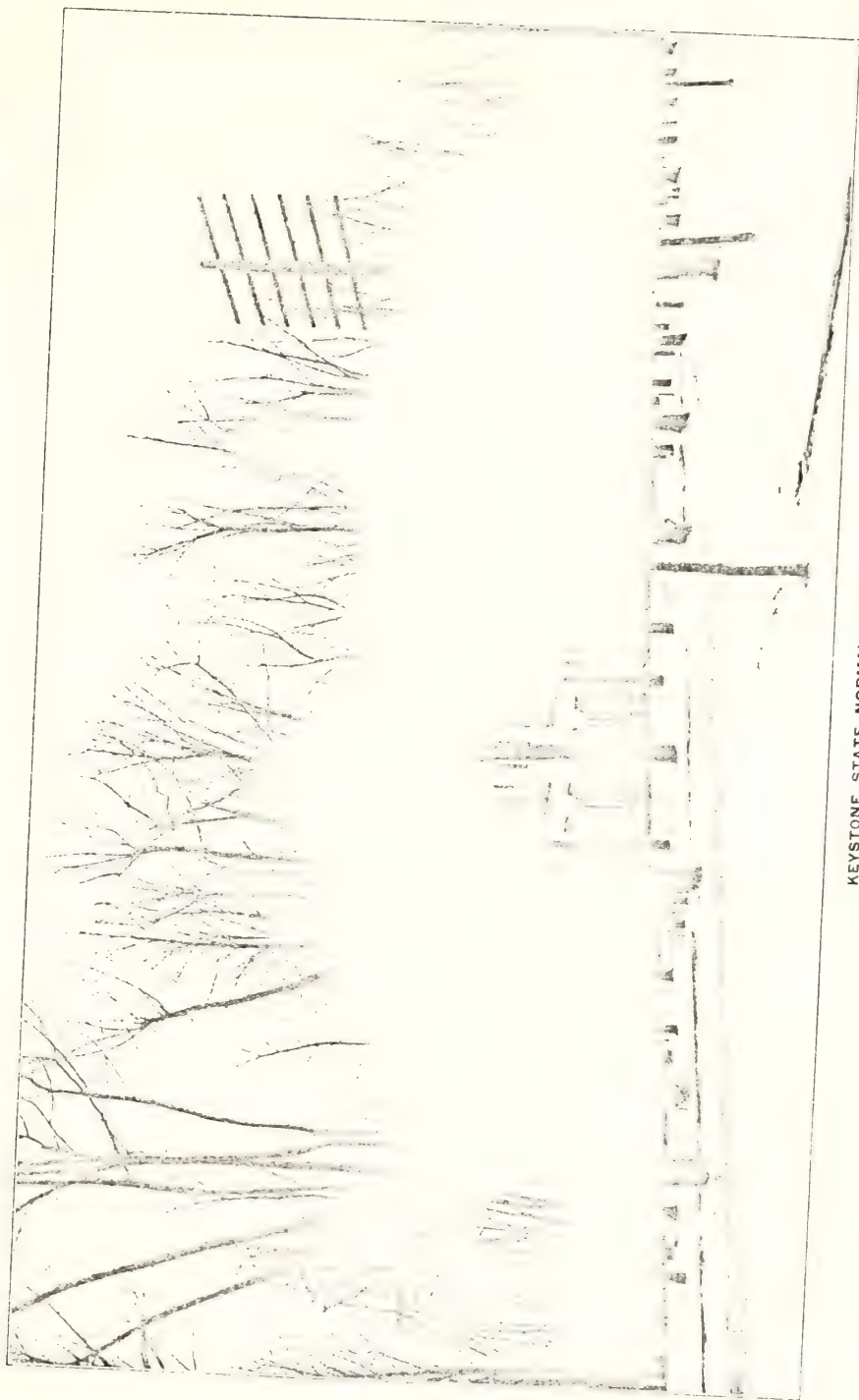
The *American Patriot*, an English-German newspaper, was also started by Mr. Christ in 1874. He sold it to Gehring and Ulrich in 1875, and Ulrich sold his interest to Gehring in 1877. In 1887 Gehring sold it to Esser, who has published it since. In 1888 the use of the German department in the newspaper was discontinued. It has been issued continuously from the *Journal* office. In 1905, Mr. Esser introduced the linotype machine, with matrices for English and German composition; and he enlarged the *Patriot* to eight pages. Both newspapers have a large circulation, but that of the *Patriot* has been the larger of the two since 1895.

The *National Educator* was published at Kutztown as an English educational journal by Rev. Dr. A. R. Horne from 1872 to 1877, when it was transferred to Allentown. He had removed to that place in 1877. The newspaper was printed in the *Journal* office.

The *Normal Vidette* was first issued in March, 1894; and has been published quarterly in October, January, April and July. It is mailed to the majority of the graduates and former students of the Keystone State Normal School, to school teachers, to school superintendents, and to school directors; and sent as an exchange to a great many colleges, normal schools, academies, and high schools of Pennsylvania as well as to other States.

Its staff consists of Prof. Harry T. Stein, manager; Prof. James S. Grim, editor; Prof. George C. Bordner, alumni editor; Caroline V. Hov, editor of school news; and Prof. H. W. Sharadin, artist. Professor Stein has been connected with it almost from its very inception. It has proved a strong medium in bringing alumni in closer touch with their alma mater. It has been printed and issued by the publisher of the *Journal*.





KEYSTONE STATE NORMAL SCHOOL
KUTZTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

SECRET SOCIETIES.—The following Secret Societies have been instituted and carried on at Kutztown:

F. & A. M., Huguenot Lodge, No. 377, 1866; 141 members.

K. G. E., Adonai Castle, No. 77, 1886; 350 members.

Jr. O. U. A. M., Charles A. Gerasch Council, No. 1004, 1895; 325 members.

Ladies Golden Eagle, Purity Temple, 1900; 80 members.

Royal Arcanum, Maxatawny Council, 1900.

Fraternal Order of Eagles, Kutztown Aerie, 1903; 200 members.

CHURCHES.—In 1790, a union church was erected of frame material by members of the Lutheran and Reformed denominations of the vicinity, and this was maintained until 1891, when a superior stone church was substituted. But members of these respective denominations have since erected beautiful denominational churches, known as the *Trinity Lutheran* (1892), and the *St. Paul's Reformed* (1885). In the old church, a Sunday-school was organized in 1826, and this has been carried on successfully until now.

The *Evangelical Association* erected a church in 1850, and organized a Sunday-school in 1851; and the members have maintained both until now. They erected a fine new building in 1885.

CEMETERIES.—Besides the burying-ground connected with the old Union Church, Hope cemetery was established near by in 1871; and the Fairview cemetery along the road to Reading, a short distance west of the Normal School, in 1861. The latter was enlarged in 1905 by the purchase of twelve acres as an annex, situated on the west side of the public road. There are a number of costly monuments in these cemeteries.

SCHOOLS.—The subject of education received the earnest attention of the inhabitants from the beginning of the town. While a union church was being erected by the Lutheran and Reformed denominations, rules were framed for the government of a school, and it was carried on under the supervision of the church council until the introduction of the common school system in 1838.

In 1892 the borough erected a large and superior school building with eight rooms at a cost of \$25,000. It embraces five schools. The total annual expenditures are \$5,000.

Keystone State Normal School.—This institution, though not situated within the corporate limits of Kutztown, is nevertheless so thoroughly identified with the borough as to justify a description of it in connection with the historical narrative of the borough. Proceedings are now pending in court relating to the annexation to the borough of adjoining property, which includes the Normal School. The article which follows was prepared by the Rev. W. W. Deatrick, A. M., Sc. D.

The buildings of the Keystone State Normal School are admirably located on elevated ground along the "Easton Road" in the southwestern part of Kutztown, midway between Reading and Allentown. The landed property of the institution, now embracing some fifty acres, extends on both sides of this noted highway for quite a distance.

This normal school is the direct outgrowth of two earlier schools, Fairview Seminary and its predecessor, the old Franklin Academy. This earliest school was housed first in the old stone parochial school-house and later in the small wooden building still standing at the intersection of Walnut and Whiteoak streets, in the heart of the town. It was founded in 1836; and in 1838, in order to secure an annual appropriation of \$400 which the State then offered to an academy having on its roll twenty-five students, it was incorporated. The first trustees were Daniel B. Kutz, Daniel Bieber, Col. John Wanner, David Kutz, Dr. C. L. Schlemm, David Deisher and Henry Heffner. The number of pupils was limited to thirty-three and no one was received for a shorter period than six months, for which time the tuition charges were \$10.00. The school had quite an extensive library for the time. Hon. Alexander Ramsey (in later years a prominent statesman of Minnesota) was at one time a teacher in this academy. After rendering excellent service to the community Franklin Academy closed its doors.

In 1860, another attempt was made to provide opportunities for advanced instruction. In that year, mainly through the efforts of the Rev. J. Sassaman Herman, a clergyman of the Reformed Church, Fairview Seminary was established. This school was opened, and for several years was conducted in the building now known as "Fairview Mansion," the present residence of Col. Thomas D. Fister, at the extreme western end of the town. Prof. H. R. Nicks, A. M., was the first teacher. He opened the school with five pupils: Erastus Bast, O. C. Herman, Jefferson C. Hoch, Nathan C. Schaeffer (later for sixteen years principal of the Keystone State Normal School and, since 1893, superintendent of public instruction of the State of Pennsylvania), and Miss Clara Wanner. The school prospered under Professor Nicks. By April, 1861, he had forty-one pupils on the roll, and in the spring of 1863 there were eighty-five, of whom a large number were boarding students. This number taxed the capacity of the building, and, in 1863, through the influence of Professor Nicks, five acres of land were purchased, where part of the Normal buildings now stand, and on that tract was begun the erection of a larger brick building. This structure cost \$6,500, and later became the old northeastern wing of the Keystone State Normal School, making way in time for the present Boys' Dormitories. In the fall of 1864, Fairview Seminary was moved into this building and there conducted under the new name of Maxatawny Seminary. Professor Nicks continued as principal, associating with himself, in 1865, as assistant, the Rev. Samuel Transeau, who remained with the school till 1867, and in 1873 removed to Williamsport, where for a number of years he served as city superintendent of public schools.

As early as 1857 the location of the State Normal school for the Third district, composed of the counties of Berks, Lehigh and Schuylkill, was discussed. In that year, in an address delivered at Reading, the Hon. H. H. Schwartz, then superintendent of schools of Lehigh, advocated the claims of Kutztown as the site for the proposed institution. In 1862, the Rev. B. E. Kramlich suggested that Professor Nicks's "Fairview Seminary" be converted into a State Normal. The Rev. John S. Ermentrout, superintendent of the Berks county public schools, favored Hamburg, as a better locality. Professor Nicks, however, was the individual who worked hardest and did most, accomplishing what others merely talked about. In 1863 he entered into correspondence with the Hon. Thomas H. Burroughs, State superintendent, in order to ascertain what steps were to be taken to secure recognition of his school as a State Normal



school. In the spring of 1865 a number of public school teachers were gathered into Maxatawny Seminary, where they were given formal pedagogical instruction by County Superintendent Ermentrout. When the success of Maxatawny Seminary had been assured, Professor Nicks proceeded to interest the community in the greater project. As the direct result of his advocacy of the measure and of his persistent energy, an organization was effected in the summer of 1865 and funds were speedily subscribed for the erection of two additional buildings, a central building and a wing on the northwest similar to the Maxatawny Seminary building, which, after the erection of the two new edifices, formed the northeast wing of the completed structure, the whole then presenting a frontage of 240 feet, "with boarding accommodations for 300 and school accommodations for 400 students." The corner-stone of this structure was laid Sept. 17, 1865, by Superintendent Ermentrout. In the corner-stone "were deposited, among other things, the Bible and the Apostles' Creed." Addresses on this occasion were delivered by Hon. J. Lawrence Getz, William Rosenthal, Esq., Daniel Ermentrout, Esq., Llewellyn Wanner, Esq., and Prof. Albert N. Raub. The building, erected by Messrs. Garst and Mast, of the city of Reading, was completed within a year at a cost of about \$40,000.

The people of the community, notably the Hottensteins, the Biebers, Dr. Charles A. Gerasch, Solomon Christ, and David Schaeffer, by liberal contributions, made the undertaking a success. For the Normal there was subscribed \$18,300; which with the \$6,500 given for the seminary previously, made a total of \$24,800.

The first board of trustees was composed of the following gentlemen: Henry Bushong, Egidius Butz, Daniel Deatrich, Rev. J. S. Ermentrout, David Fister, John H. Fogel, Jonas Hoch, Edward Hottenstein, M. D., J. Glancy Jones, Rev. B. E. Kramlich, Diller Luther, M. D., Jonas Miller, Ulrich Miller, Rev. H. R. Nicks, H. H. Schwartz, Esq., David Schaeffer, Adam Stein, Lesher Trexler, M. D., and J. D. Wanner, Esq. Lewis K. Hottenstein was president of the board of trustees, David H. Hottenstein its secretary; Lesher Trexler, M. D., was president of the board of stockholders and Jonas Hoch secretary. Charles Gerasch, M. D., was treasurer of the new school.

At a meeting of the board of trustees, held Aug. 4, 1866, formal application was made to the Hon. Charles R. Coburn, State superintendent of common schools, for the recognition of the school as the State Normal School for the Third District. On Thursday, Sept. 13, 1866, W. Worthington, George Landon, S. Elliott, Thaddeus Banks, J. S. Ermentrout (superintendent of Berks county), Jesse Newlin (superintendent of Schuylkill), and E. J. Young (superintendent of Lehigh), inspectors appointed by the State superintendent, inspected the school and recommended its recognition, and on Sept. 15th, two days later, Superintendent Coburn issued a proclamation recognizing the school by the name of the Keystone State Normal School, the corporate name borne by it to the present time.

The officers of instruction, as given by the first catalog, were: Rev. J. S. Ermentrout, A. M., Principal, and Professor of Mental and Moral Science, and of Theory and Practice of Teaching; Rev. H. R. Nicks, A. M., Associate Principal, and Professor of Mathematics and Physics; Albert N. Raub, A. M., Professor of English Language and Literature, and of Vocal Music; Rev. Samuel Transeau, A. M., Professor of Ancient Languages and History; Edward T. Burgan, M. E., Superintendent of the Model School and Professor of Penmanship and Book-keeping; Rev. G. F. Spicker, Professor of German Language and Literature; Lesher Trexler, M. D., Lecturer on Anatomy, Physiology, and Hygiene; Miss Julia E. Bullard, M. L., Teacher of Instrumental Music, French, Painting and Drawing; Miss Mary Morrison, Teacher of Reading and Geography; ——— (not filed), Teacher of Elocution; Peter S. Umbenhauer, Pupil Assistant. The

first catalog, 1866-1867, contains the names of 318 pupils; 263 of them male, 55 female.

Rev. John S. Ermentrout served as principal until 1871 when he was succeeded by Rev. A. R. Horne, A. M. After an absence of three years, Professor Ermentrout returned in 1874 and served as Professor of Mental Science and English Literature (or "Belles Lettres," as it was called at first) until 1881. In 1877 Dr. A. R. Horne was succeeded in the principalship by the Rev. Nathan C. Schaeffer, A. M., who, after winning unusual distinction and receiving honorary degrees from eminent institutions of learning, severed his connection with the school in 1893 to become State superintendent of public instruction of Pennsylvania. Rev. George B. Hancher, Ph. D., became principal in 1893 and served till 1899; since that time to the present, the Rev. A. C. Rothermel, Pd. D., has been the efficient head of the institution.

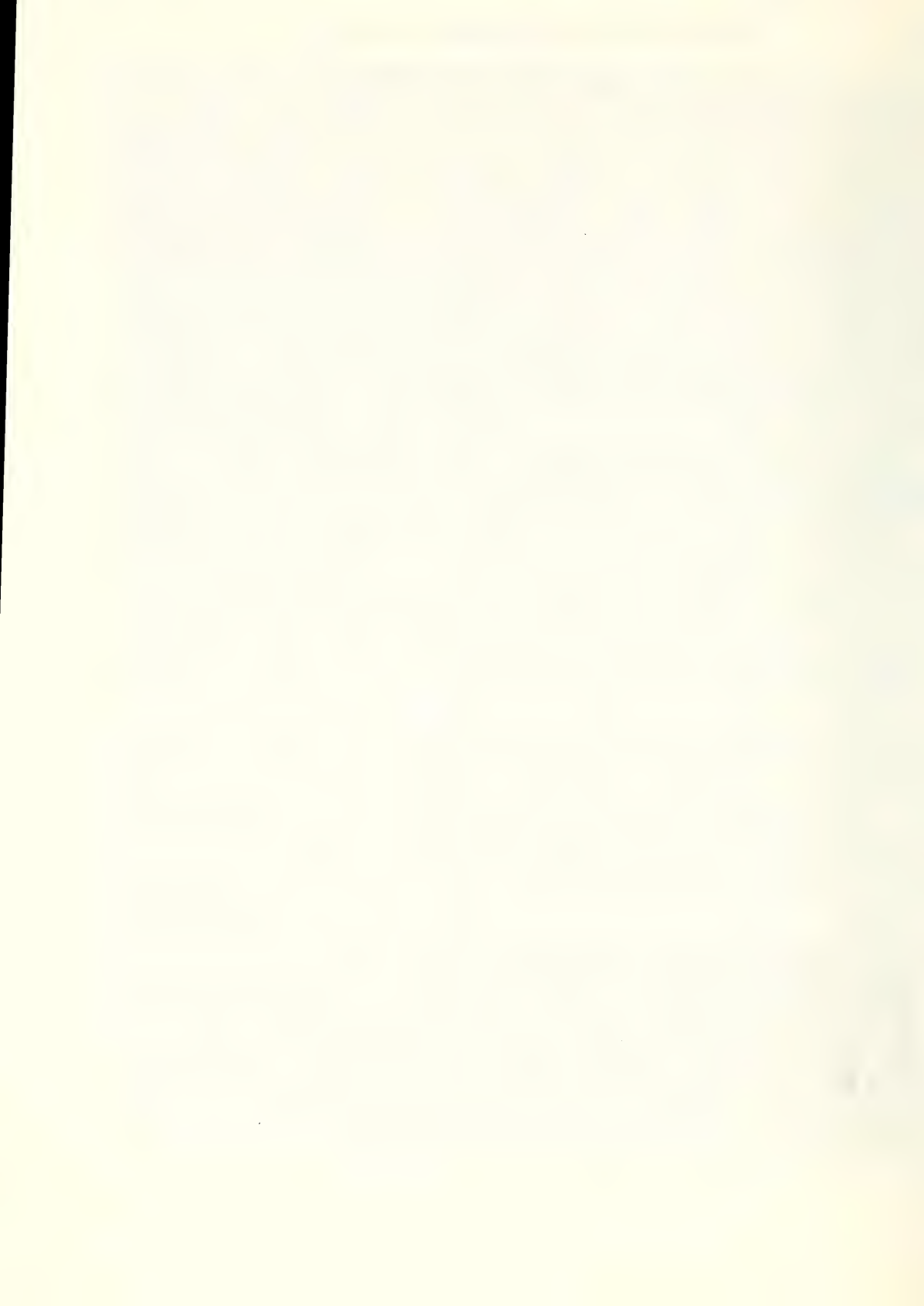
The growth of the school has been steady and substantial. For more than twenty years past, building operations have been almost continuous. The earlier structures were soon outgrown and larger edifices, one by one, have taken their place until now, with the exception of a single three-storied brick building, known as "The Steward's Building," overshadowed by massive piles around it, not one of the first erections remains. In 1880 the "Ladies' Building" or Girls' Dormitory was put up; in 1887 the "Chapel Building" was erected; in 1891 the extensive northeast wing or "Boys' Dormitory" followed; in 1893 the old "Main Building" was demolished to give place for the great six-story "Center Building," costing \$75,000; in 1896, the necessities of the school produced a fine kitchen and laundry with a superb equipment; in 1898 a powerful electric light plant made coal-oil illumination an incident of history; in 1900 the foundations were laid for a new "Model School Building" with an annex containing physical, chemical and biological laboratories, and an ample auditorium (the two costing \$100,000); in 1908 a splendidly equipped gymnasium, ornately designed, and erected at a cost of \$50,000, was opened for use; while the early months of 1909 witness the completion of a fine two-story brick hospital or infirmary, for the isolation and treatment of pupils who may fall ill while at school (a provision for which it is hoped there may be little need).

Besides this, there is a great boiler house, which has been enlarged from time to time in order to furnish steam heat to recitation rooms and dormitories and power to run the machinery of the hydraulic passenger elevator, the apparatus of the laundry, the electric dynamos, and the pumping engine at the artesian well and water tower.

The buildings are in some respects unique as being, with the exception of boiler house, electric plant, gymnasium, infirmary, and steward's house, practically under one roof, being connected by covered bridges, supported on beams of steel. The dormitories and recitation halls are large and abundantly lighted.

The equipment of the school in the way of scientific apparatus is select and complete, and each year large expenditures are made for the physical, chemical, biological, and psychological laboratories, as well as for the other departments of the institution; by which means the educational facilities afforded by the school are kept abreast of the demands of the times.

There are three principal libraries, each containing several thousand volumes. One is the general reference library, the other two are the property of the two literary societies maintained by the students. These societies are the Philomathean Literary Society, organized early in the year 1865, and the Keystone Literary Society, originally named the Kalliomathean Society, which, in September of the same year, was organized by students dismissed, for the purpose of starting a rival society, by the elder organization. Besides these collections of books, several departmental or working libraries, housed in various recitation rooms, are maintained by several of the departments of the school. All these collections are generously augmented from time to time.



The course of study is that prescribed by the State of Pennsylvania, but in some matters this school leads its compeers. At the instigation of Dr. Nathan C. Schaeffer (who was principal at the time and had been a member of the Pennsylvania Industrial Commission), a manual training department, directed by Dr. W. W. Dea-trick, was established in 1891, the first in Pennsylvania Normal Schools. Instruction in this department is given on pedagogic lines but, nevertheless, the course is eminently practical, having obtained marked recognition in the reports of the United States commissioner of education. Specimens of work done in accordance with this course, exhibited with other work of the school, won medals and diplomas at two great world's fairs. Among other exercises in this department, there may be mentioned plain sewing (for female pupils), construction of apparatus, clay-modeling, and mechanical drawing. The fine arts are not neglected: drawing, crayoning, and painting in water and oils and on china, are thoroughly taught.

But brains are better than bricks and the mainstay of a great school must ever be the excellence of its teaching force. In this particular the Keystone State Normal School has been especially fortunate: it has always had forceful instructors, and never more of them than now. The roster of teachers in the last catalog contains thirty-four names; and among them a considerable proportion is of names of college and university trained instructors. In this way the desired breadth and accuracy in instruction are secured.

The school is crowded with pupils to the point of taxing the capacity of the present ample buildings. The last catalog contained the names of 929 pupils. The list of alumni of the institution now totals 2,564 names, among which are men and women prominent in every sphere of wholesome and serviceable human activity. A recent report of the trustees made to the Department of Public Instruction shows that, at present, there are about 10,000 volumes in the combined libraries and that the value of the buildings and equipment approximates half a million dollars.

DEISHER INDIAN RELICS.—The collection of Indian relics owned by Henry K. Deisher, manufacturer, is worthy of special mention in connection with the history of Kutztown. He began collecting arrow-heads in the vicinity of the borough when only a boy six years old, at the suggestion of his teacher, and as he grew older he gradually extended his excursions into the surrounding territory in search of relics. When plowing operations on the farms were going on, he was particularly zealous, and his industry and perseverance were rewarded by the acquisition of all kinds of specimens. In this way his collection grew larger and larger and with it the development of his knowledge on the subject, until he came to possess superior specimens from all parts of Berks county and from the counties in the eastern and interior parts of the State of Pennsylvania, and also numerous publications relating to Indian affairs, which together comprise a considerable library of much value on the subject. Then he began to purchase specimens from different States, and so he continued his accumulations until he now has upward of 22,000, consisting of arrow-heads, spear-heads, knives, scrapers, axes, celts, pestles, and ceremonial or banner stones. Much skill has been displayed in their arrangement in cases specially prepared. Since 1900, he has added two rare collections of all kinds of relics from the Pacific coast, carefully packed and weighing two tons, which embraced all kinds of stone, bone and horn implements, and many strings

of beads and wampum. The collection includes 17,000 specimens of various kinds from different parts of Berks county.

Mr. Deisher has also collected many baskets of all kinds, shapes and sizes, made by the Indians of California, Arizona and Alaska, varying in diameter from one-quarter of an inch to two and a half feet, and showing unique designs of perfect regularity, in different colors.

The collection is worth many thousands of dollars, and Mr. Deisher's enterprise, devotion, and determination in this behalf since 1873, a period covering thirty-six years, are truly commendable.

HAMBURG

Hamburg is a prosperous borough in the northern section of the county, near the eastern bank of the Schuylkill river, sixteen miles north of Reading. The land embraced in the limits of the borough was taken up by warrant as early as 1732, immediately after the territory was released by the Indians, and a patent was issued in 1772 to Martin Kaercher for 250 acres, the tract having been named "Hamburg" at that time. In 1779, Kaercher conveyed the tract to his son, Martin, and the son then laid out a town. It came to be publicly known by the name of Kaerchertown, which it held for many years.

The first public enterprise affecting this place was the construction of the Centre Turnpike from Reading to Pottsville. It was completed in 1812, and operated until 1885, when it was abandoned. Stages ran to and fro on this turnpike until 1812.

A canal was constructed along the eastern bank of the Schuylkill from 1815 to 1832, which was opened for traffic in 1824. Active operations were carried on until about 1895, with a large annual tonnage, but then they almost entirely ceased because the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company (which had become its lessee) diverted the coal and merchandise traffic to the railroad. Boat-building at Hamburg was a prominent industry for forty years.

Railroad communication with Reading and Philadelphia to the south, and Pottsville to the north, was opened in 1812 by the extension of the Philadelphia & Reading railroad along the western bank of the Schuylkill. In December, 1885, additional railroad facilities were afforded to Reading and to Pottsville by the completion of the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad along the eastern bank of the river. The company established a station at the crossing on State street, where a superior and attractive building was erected to accommodate the patrons of the road.

Telegraph communication was opened in 1847; and telephone, in 1881.

INCORPORATION.—The borough was erected by a special Act of Assembly, passed April 3, 1837. Several previous attempts had been made in this behalf (the first having been in 1830), but they

were not successful. This movement was encouraged by the operation and increasing importance of the canal.

The borough was divided into two wards in 1886: North and South.

EARLY INHABITANTS.—Among the early inhabitants of Hamburg, whilst a town, from 1800 to 1820, were the following, whose employments are indicated in the statement:

John Meyer, broker
Henry Heinly, tailor
John De Wald, hatter
John Shomo, Jr., teacher
David Newhart, tobacconist
George Miller, miller
Charles Guss, mason
William Feather, tanner
Moses Levy, store-keeper
Daniel Levan, tavern-keeper
Jacob Snell, butcher
Joseph Shomo, Sr., tinsmith
Abraham Wolff, saddler
Henry Groh, yeoman
Adolphus Hatzfield, justice
Dr. Klein, physician
Philip Sousley, cordwainer
Andrew Helwig, yeoman
Henry Schoener, chair-maker
Wm. Coulter, chair-maker
Henry Lewers, tinsmith
Henry Fister, hatter
John Schenk, tailor
John Beideman, clock-maker
Mrs. Peter Schatz, cake-baker
Henry Lindemuth, shoe-maker
Abraham Bailey, tavern-keeper
William Schau, tailor
Abraham De Wald, cigar-maker
Dr. Benj. Becker, physician
Philip Hummel, farmer
Frederick Felix, shoemaker
Michael Reese, cooper
John Eberhard, carpenter
William Machemer, dyer
John Moyer, tobacconist
John Shomo, Sr., inn-keeper
Andrew Smith, blacksmith

John Derr, tanner
Robert Scott, store-keeper
Jacob Glatt, laborer
John Miller, cabinet-maker
Andrew Forsyth, merchant
Jacob Fisher, coffee-mill-maker
Capt. Leitheiser, Revolutionist
Sebastian Leonard, blacksmith
Daniel Kern, store-keeper
David Davidheiser, tavern-keeper
Andrew Hummel, laborer
Jacob Hains, carpenter
Christian Lochman, weaver
John Miller, cooper
Peter Dile, laborer
Henry Roi, watchmaker
Wm. Lochman (Hessian), laborer
John Scharff (Hessian), hostler
Abraham Shollenberger, potter
John Shollenberger, blacksmith
— Hietrich, cooper
— Silliman, ferryman
Fred'k Shollenberger, butcher
Abraham Keiser, butcher
— Kennedy, mason
Killian May, cooper
Joseph Miller, farmer
Wm. Williamson, wheelwright
Casper Diehl, tavern-keeper
Jeremiah Shappell, farmer
Ab'm Williamson, spinning-wheel-maker

Benjamin Harman
Widow Humel
Henry Heinly Est.
Jacob Heins
John Hartzel
Henry Hoffman
Charles Hartline
William Hensher
Enoch Jones
Conrad Kolp
Benjamin Kline
Peter Kern Est.
Daniel Kern
William Keiser
Abraham Keiser Est.
Samuel Kline
Charles Keller
Solomon Klein
John Leise
Christian Lochman
Sebastian Lenhart
Henry Lindemuth
William Lochman
Jacob Lindemuth
Henry Lewars, Esq.
Jacob Laub
Charles Loy
Daniel Laub
Samuel Lilly
Widow Leitheiser
Frederick Miller
John Miller
George Miller
John Moyer Est.
Peter Miller
James G. Moyer
William Neyer
John Naragang, Sr.
David Nice Est.
Benjamin R. Nice, M. D.
Lewis J. Pauli
Josiah H. Reichelderfer
John F. Reeser
Benjamin Reeser
Solomon Reese
Michael Reese
John Roth
John Roth, Jr.

Charles Roth
Henry Rapp
William Rothenberger
Lewis Rhubear
Barbara Savage
John W. Scott
Israel Smith
Boas Smith
Egedius Smith
Andrew Smith Est.
William Shomo
Joseph Shomo
Jacob Snell
John Schwoyer
Godfrey Seidel
Samuel Shollenberger
John Shenk
Joseph Smith
Jacob Siegfried
Jonathan Sweitzig (of Jacob)
Jacob Shollenberger
John Shollenberger
John Shollenberger (bl.sm.)
Dewald Shollenberger Est.
Fred'k Shollenberger
Peter Shollenberger
Augustus Shultz, M. D.
Joseph Shollenberger
Philip Shatz
John Sunday
William Smith
Benjamin Stitzel
Jacob Smith
Joseph Seidel
Jacob Shaeffer
Thomas Smith
Casper Snell
John Tolbert
Isaac Thompson
Jonathan Waidman
Christian Wild
Abraham Williamson
Daniel Wolf
John Wehren
George Wagner, Jr.
John Williams
Benjamin Williams
Joseph Weidman

Single Freemen

John P. Miller
William Mengel
Martin Pauter
Jacob Roth
John Ring
Daniel Stambach
William Smith (of Michl.)
Thomas Smith (of Andw.)
Charles Shollenberger
Joseph Yeager

FIRST TAXABLES.—The resident taxables of Hamburg, at the time of its erection into a borough, were as follows:

Frederick Albright
William Ames
John Bailly
William Berger
Augustus Bailer
Peter C. Baum
Peter Baucher, Jr.
John Beiteman
John Boyer Est.
Jacob Buck
Widow Benseman
Jacob Billman
Solomon Borrel
Jacob Cramp
David Dewald
Israel Derr, Esq.
Jesse Dewalt

Isaac Dewalt
William Evans
Casper Ehman
Jacob Fisher
William Feather
Henry Fister
Simon Fister
Joseph Filbert
Arthur Fesig
Reuben Freed
Henry Groh Est.
Joseph Groh
William Gift
Joseph Geiger
Jacob Geiser
Felix Hartman
Adolph Hatzfield

PROPERTY IN 1906.—The amount of the assessed property of Hamburg in 1906, and the number of taxables, were as follows:

	Property	Money at interest	Taxables
North ward.....	\$334,403	\$121,158	458
South ward.....	580,053	204,826	456
	\$914,456	\$325,984	914

LIST OF OFFICIALS.—The early minutes of the town council have been lost. The names of the

chief burgesses, town clerks and justices of the peace since 1867 are as follows:

CHIEF BURGESSES

John Sunday	1867-68; 1874-75
James Prutzman	1869-71
Reuben Seidel	1872-73; 1880
Jacob Geiger	1876
Fred. Gordtleck	1877-78
John A. Tobias	1879
Dr. William Harris	1881-82
Solomon K. Dreibelbis	1883; 1885-86
Alton F. Luburg	1884; 1887; 1897-1900; 1903-06
Dr. Jonathan B. Potteiger	1888
Christian Baum	1889
Frank R. Wagner	1890-91
J. Albert Sunday	1892
Thomas M. Raubenhold	1893; 1903-06; 1909-12
William K. Miller	1894-97
John R. Wagner	1900-03
Dr. Frank M. Nice	1906-09

TOWN CLERKS

George A. Xander	1867-73
J. Jerome Miller	1874-77
B. S. Gardner	1878-80; 1882
R. J. M. Miller	1881; 1884-90
B. F. Bean	1883
Monroe M. Dreibelbis	1890-93
Benneville Derr	1893-98
Frank I. Tobias	1898-1910

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE*

Ephraim Dreibelbis	1873-78
Oliver J. Wolff	1875-88
Jackson Levan	1878-88; 1893-98
Solomon K. Dreibelbis	1888-93
M. M. Dreibelbis	1898-1903
Solomon K. Hoffman	1888-1913
W. A. B. Ketner	1903-13

POST-OFFICE.—A post-office was established at Hamburg in 1798. The postmaster since 1897 has been Abel H. Beyers. Previous postmasters back to 1870 were: B. Frank Bean, Allen L. Shomo, Dr. William Harris, Elias Shomo, Henry Rothenberger, Peter S. Haintz.

INDUSTRIES.—The oldest recognized industry in the town was the gristmill established about the beginning of the town by Martin Kaercher, Jr., and the site is still occupied as a mill by the Savage Brothers. It has been operated for upward of one hundred and twenty years by different parties.

Numerous industries, such as for the distillation of whiskey, the brewing of beer, the building of boats, the manufacture of leather, bricks, chains, nails, wool hats, etc., were carried on for many years in the early history of the place as a town and afterward as a borough, but these have been abandoned for many years.

One of the most prominent plants is the Hamburg Plow Works on Main street, operated by S. A. Loose & Son. It was first started as a tannery by Israel Derr and operated till near 1850. Then it was converted into a foundry by his son Benneville for the manufacture of stoves and the "Derr Plows." He employed from ten to fifteen men. It was carried on by him until 1881, when he was succeeded by S. A. Loose, C. F. Seaman and P. M.

Shollenberger, who traded as Loose, Seaman & Co., and they changed the name of the plant to the Hamburg Plow Works. They manufactured extensively the "Champion" plow, and the "Bower" slip-point plowshare, which they shipped to all parts of this country and foreign countries including South America and Spain. Loose became sole owner in 1893, and his son was admitted as a partner in 1903.

The Keystone Foundry on State street was erected in 1841 by Reuben Lins for manufacturing farming implements, rolling-mill castings, and stoves. He and others in succession carried it on extensively until 1881, when Henry Seivert became the owner, and he operated it successfully until 1905, when he sold the plant to William Neiman and Llewellyn K. Saul, who have since manufactured all kinds of engine and elevator castings, employing twenty-five hands.

The manufacturing of building brick was started at Hamburg about 1845 by John Tobias. The yard and kiln were operated by him and his brother, and then by his son Charles and son-in-law William G. Sheradin until 1902, when they were removed to Tilden township on the farm of Jeremiah A. Bausler.

The industrial affairs at Hamburg in 1909 were in a flourishing condition. Twenty-seven plants were in operation. The following statement shows the nature of the several plants and the names of the proprietors, the year when started, and the number of employees:

W. Irving Wilhelm established a large bicycle works at Hamburg in the year 1892 and carried it on with great success several years until it was destroyed by fire in 1898. The plant was rebuilt and afterward converted into a silk-mill.

Bleachery Works: Allen J. Kummerer (1897-1907) with 4 hands; W. Scott Fisher & Son (1899-1908) with 6 hands; Solon D. Bausher (1901), with 8 to 10 hands; Hamburg Knitting Mills (1909).

Boiler Works: Henry Seiders (1901); 20 to 30 hands.

Bottling Works: W. H. Raubenhold (1899), 3 hands (formerly operated by J. W. Heinly from 1880 to 1898).

Broom-handle Factory: William E. Schmick carried on the manufacture of broom handles at Hamburg in 1905 and 1906, when he and five other persons of the place organized the Schmick Handle & Lumber Co. with a capital of \$25,000 for the purpose of manufacturing broom-handles and chair stock and transferred the industry to a town called William, in West Virginia, where they have since carried on the business in an extensive and successful manner, employing from forty to fifty hands, and producing daily 25,000 handles, which are shipped to all parts of the country. The parties from Hamburg, interested in this industry, are Mr. Schmick (president), Charles D. Burkey (vice-president), J. Jerome Miller (treasurer), J. Edward Miller (secretary), J. A. Bausher and his son Solon, who constitute the board of directors.

* Record previous to 1873 not on file.



Broom Factories: W. E. Schmick (1892), 40 to 60 hands; John H. Miller (1899), 10 hands; A. B. Heller (1900), 12 hands.

Carriage Factories: Samuel Scott and James Kemmerer, trading as Scott & Kemmerer (1901), 5 hands (previously carried on by W. A. Scott, from 1865 to 1902, when he died). William G. Hahn (1898); his brother Adam became a partner in 1902, and they have carried on the business since as W. G. Hahn & Bro., with 15 hands.

Chain Hoists: The Hamburg Manufacturing Company was organized in 1907 by Henry J. Schmick and others of Hamburg (who had secured several valuable patents) for the manufacture of chain hoists, with a capital of \$50,000. The company established a plant and since then has been very successful in producing a hoist which has become very popular. The United States government has placed a number of them on some of the battle-ships and also in the construction work of the Panama canal, which evidences the superior character of this particular hoist.

Cigar Factory: John W. Wertley (1861); son, John H., was a partner from 1905 to 1907, and then became sole proprietor; 6 hands.

Creamery: Nathan A. Confer (1892-1906), 2 hands (converted into nickel-plating works); Alfred P. Wertley (1899), 10 hands.

Electric Light and Power Company: Incorporated in 1892; 27 arc lights for borough use, and 1,000 incandescents; John Snell, president; George F. Meharg, secretary and treasurer.

Engine Works: John Snell and George F. Meharg, trading as Snell & Meharg (1889); 40 hands (formerly at Reading from 1880 to 1889).

Flour Mills: George Walter (1884), 6 hands, 50 barrels daily; Bausher & Seaman* (1899), 5 hands, 50 barrels daily; Savage & Bro. (1901), 5 hands; 18 barrels daily.

Foundries: S. A. Loose & Son (1903), 30 hands; Wm. Neiman and L. K. Saul, trading as Neiman & Saul (1905), 22 hands; Nathan Confer, Jr., Thomas L. Smith and N. A. Confer, trading as Confer, Smith & Co. (1903), 40 hands.

Gas Works: Incorporated in 1903; holder, 20,000 cubic feet; 200 consumers; H. F. Printzenhoff, president of the company to 1908, then succeeded by William O. Heinly.

Greenhouse: Stephen Soursley, 1904.

Hosiery Mill: James L. Merkel (1903), 25 hands.

Ice Cream Factories: Alfred P. Wertley (1888; started by father in 1861); D. M. Baer (1892).

Knitting Mills: Dr. Allen J. Fink, Solomon K. Hoffman, Esq., and Thomas M. Raubenhold, trading as Hamburg Knitting Mills (1896), 40 hands; Solon D. Bausher (1895), 90 hands; W. Scott Fisher & Son (1903 to 1908), 30 hands.

Shoe Factory: Bigney, Sweeny & Geiger (1905 and 1906). The plant was started by Curtis, Jones

* Bausher & Dehone previously, from 1886 to 1899, having introduced the first roller process machinery in northern section of the county.

& Co. of Reading in 1902 and operated until 1905, when discontinued. A previous industry had been carried on in this building by the Byers Hat Co. (Inc.), for the manufacture of hats, from 1891 to 1902.

Silk Mill: Incorporated in 1902, with capital of \$25,000, by Irwin A. Diener and Henry J. Diener of Hamburg, Lee D. Madeira of Fleetwood, and four non-residents. The Dieners sold their interest in September, 1906, to New York dealers who have carried it on since; 70 hands.

In 1909, besides the plants named, there were two lumber yards, five general stores, two furniture stores, four hotels, four saloons, and one liquor store.

VOCATIONS IN 1909.—The miscellaneous employments at Hamburg in 1909 were as follows:

Physicians	5	Undertakers	2
Dentists	2	Milliners	3
Blacksmiths	3	Butchers	2
Tinsmiths	3	Builders	2
Wheelwright	1		

BANKS.—The Hamburg Savings Bank (State) was chartered in 1872 with a capital of \$50,000. The par value of the stock was fixed at \$20, but it gradually increased until November, 1908, when the market value was nearly \$60, which evidences the superior management of this financial institution. Then the resources were \$642,710, with deposits at \$495,232, and the surplus and undivided profits at \$97,300. It occupies a superior building on Main street, which is worth about \$15,000. J. Jerome Miller has been the cashier since 1877—a continuous period covering thirty-two years—the previous cashier having been Charles Shomo. It has been placed on the State Bank Roll of Honor, being the twenty-sixth in Pennsylvania.

A second bank was instituted Feb. 13, 1908, called the First National Bank of Hamburg, with a capital of \$25,000. In November, 1908, the resources were \$129,818, with deposits \$78,176 and undivided profits \$1,509. It secured a property on Main street, near State (where the post-office had been located for ten years), and erected a bank building with an attractive front, worth \$12,000. Joseph S. Hepner has been the president, and H. Raymond Shollenberger the cashier.

BOARD OF TRADE.—In 1889 a Board of Trade was organized at Hamburg by the merchants and business people, and James L. Merkel, a prominent and successful merchant, was selected as its president. It carried on an active existence for some time and was quite successful in stimulating local enterprises of various kinds. It was re-organized in 1906 with Mr. Merkel as president and he has filled the position since. The meetings are held in the town hall; the members number about 150.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Water Company.—In 1889, the Wind-or Water Company was organized and incorporated by Peter D. Wanner of Reading, J. Jerome Miller and Charles F. Seaman of Hamburg, and several other

persons, with a capital of \$50,000, for the purpose of supplying Hamburg with water. They established a reservoir with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons at the base of the Blue Mountain, three miles northeast of Hamburg on Mill creek, a short distance below the old Windsor iron furnace; also an auxiliary artesian well, 300 feet deep, with a daily capacity of 100,000 gallons by means of a compressed-air pumping engine. Peter D. Wanner was president of the company until 1901, when he was succeeded by George F. Meharg.

Fire Company.—In 1838, shortly after the incorporation of the borough, a fire company was organized to afford the inhabitants protection against fire. It was a private association and it was not until 1866 that the borough authorities supplied a building for its apparatus. The second story of the building was set apart as a town hall for the meetings of the town council. In 1906, the company had 192 members; a Silsby steam fire-engine; hook and ladder truck; and three hose carriages, with 1,000 feet of the best cotton hose (one carriage being located in the North ward, and two in the South ward where the building is situated).

NEWSPAPERS.—A number of newspapers have been issued at Hamburg. The *Schnellpost* was started in 1841 and continued until 1897; the *Advertiser*, in 1865, and continued until 1868, when it was removed to Pottstown; the *Rural Press*, in 1872, and continued until 1875, when it was removed to Ohio; the *Berichter*, in 1872, and continued until 1874, when it was removed to Reading.

The *Hamburg Weekly Item* was started by Samuel A. Focht in 1875, in the country three miles east of Hamburg, but in 1876 the publication office was removed to the borough and here it has continued until now. Focht continued its publication until his death in 1887; then (Jan. 1, 1888) William O. Heinly purchased the plant and he has since issued the newspaper with increasing success. A printing office is carried on in connection with the newspaper.

HAMBURG MOTOR CLUB.—In 1908, the automobilists of Hamburg and the surrounding towns within a radius of seventeen miles organized an association, called the Hamburg Motor Club. In May, 1909, there were upward of thirty automobiles at Hamburg; and then the club had eighty-two members. Hamburg is generally recognized as having more automobiles in proportion to population than any other town in Pennsylvania.

CHURCHES.—There are four churches at Hamburg. The first was erected in 1790 as a "union" church, comprising the Lutheran and Reformed denominations. The land for the purpose had been donated and set apart by Kaercher in 1773. The building was of logs, two stories, the lower story being used for school purposes and the upper for religious services. Within twenty years, it became too small to accommodate the increasing attendance, and arrangements were made to erect in its

stead a larger building; but, not being able to collect the necessary amount by personal solicitation, a lottery scheme to raise \$3,000 was granted by an Act of Assembly passed in 1807. The corner-stone was laid in 1811; the final drawings in the lottery were made in 1813; and the church was consecrated in 1815. In 1857, the building was remodeled. In 1898 it was destroyed by fire, a large burning ember from the Wilhelm Bicycle Works (then on fire) having been blown several squares and fallen on the roof of the church. Many devoted members ran to the rescue, but their efforts were futile, because water was not then available.

St. John's Lutheran Church.—Immediately after the fire, the members of the Lutheran congregation purchased the interest of the Reformed congregation in the premises and erected a magnificent church on the old site, costing upward of \$40,000. In this great and successful undertaking the pastor, Rev. Harry C. Kline, was particularly active and persevering, for which he has been highly complimented.

Trinity Reformed Church.—The members of the Reformed congregation, having separated from the Lutheran congregation, on account of the destruction of the church as mentioned, they also exerted themselves in erecting a modern structure, and in this they were equally successful. They secured a lot on Third street at the corner of Pine, and thereon erected a superior building, costing upward of \$30,000.

Roman Catholic Church.—A Roman Catholic church was erected in 1853 and services were held in it for nearly fifty years, without a resident priest. The congregation was at no time large. The members of this church who continue to reside at Hamburg attend services at Port Clinton, several miles to the north.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—In 1859, Rev. H. H. Davis began to preach in behalf of establishing a Methodist Episcopal Church at Hamburg. About a year afterward, a lot was secured and a brick building was erected on it, which was dedicated on Nov. 29, 1860. It has been improved several times since. The congregation maintains a successful organization.

United Evangelical Church.—The Evangelical Association established a church at Hamburg in 1872 and a congregation was maintained for upward of twenty years. Then the factional disturbance in the national association showed itself here and in the settlement of the legal controversy in 1894 this church became the property of the United Evangelical Association, and as such it has been occupied for religious purposes until now.

SCHOOLS.—When the Union Church was built in 1791, provision was made for the education of the children at Hamburg in the building; and after a new church was erected in 1815 to take its place, the first floor was used for school purposes. The public school system was accepted in 1838.

In 1854, there were 5 schools and 236 scholars; in 1884, 8 schools and 100 scholars; and in 1905, 10 schools and 128 scholars. In 1889, the borough erected a superior three-story brick school building in the center of a large lot of ground at the corner of Third and Island streets.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.—A public library building was erected in 1903 by a committee of prominent men of Hamburg, by reason of a donation of \$10,000 from Andrew Carnegie; and this building was named after the donor. It is one-story, built of brick, and presents a fine appearance. It is situated on Third street, north of State. A collection of miscellaneous books was then made by purchase and donation. In April, 1909, it embraced over twenty-five hundred volumes. J. Edward Miller, Esq., has been president of the Library Commission since 1903, and he has taken much interest in its success.

SECRET SOCIETIES.—The secret societies which have carried on an active organization at Hamburg for a number of years are the following:

- Odd Fellows
- P. O. Sons of America
- Knights of the Golden Eagle
- Knights of Friendship
- Red Men
- American Mechanics
- Vaux Lodge, F. and A. M.
- Maccabees
- Royal Arcanum

MILITARY COMPANY.—A military company was organized at Hamburg in 1875 with 100 men and E. F. Smith as captain, and it became a part of the National Guard of Pennsylvania as Company E, 4th Regiment. In 1877, the company was called out to render service in assisting to quell the riot at Reading in the month of July, occasioned by the strike of the locomotive engineers. While there it led the march through the cut along Seventh street, from Walnut to Penn; and in its movement down Penn street, the captain was knocked down three times, and one of the privates was seriously injured. It was engaged in the Spanish war of 1898; and responded to the several calls of the Governor of Pennsylvania in assisting to quell the riots in the coal regions. [See Chapter VIII.]

The company was a continuation of a distinguished company called the "Blue Mountain Legion," which had kept up its organization in a successful manner for upward of fifty years. It was originally an artillery company and then changed to infantry. Whilst the former, it participated in a parade at Pottsville and won the first prize for its perfect maneuvers.

Armory Hall was erected on Third street, north of State, in 1889, by the military company called the Blue Mountain Legion, and the title to the premises was taken in the name of the Hamburg Athletic and Military Association, which became an incorporated body in 1903. The members were connected with the military company (Company

E, 4th Regiment, N. G. P.) and those most active in the matter were Monroe M. Dreibellis (Captain), Wilson H. Lewars (First Lieutenant), Wilson I. Leshar (Second Lieutenant), Mandon L. Machemer (Sergeant), William H. Yeager (Sergeant), William Bailey and Franklin Sterner. Company E has had its meetings and drilling exercises there since its erection. The cost is about \$7,000. It adjoins the Carnegie Free Library.

BAND OF MUSIC.—A band of music has been maintained for upward of thirty years. For a time it was called the Citizens' Cornet Band, and afterward it took the name of Burkey's Cornet Band. The directors and instructors of the band have been Perry Shollenberger, Dr. William Harris, William Burkey and Wellington J. Confer, the last being the leader since 1907. It has upward of twenty members.

DESTRUCTIVE FLOOD.—There was a severe rain-storm of short duration at Hamburg and vicinity on Friday afternoon, Aug. 3, 1906, which shocked the community and caused losses which amounted to about \$30,000, one-third to the borough, and two-thirds to property holders. The down-pour of rain to the north and east of the borough collected in a depression of the surface of the earth, which extends from the eastern portion of the borough in a northeasterly direction for several miles, forming the bed of a creek, but the channel through the borough, by way of the Shomo mill-dam, was too narrow to allow the unusual quantity of water to flow away and as a natural consequence it washed away the dam and demolished altogether a dozen dwellings, and injured fifty others. The most serious damage was in the vicinity of the Savings Bank, where the street was flooded to the depth of three feet. One man, Allen J. Romich, in attempting to escape, was drowned. The water and gas mains were broken, which deprived the inhabitants of the use of drinking water, and gas for lighting purposes. Many persons had narrow escapes, the most prominent being the bank directors who were holding their regular meeting at the time of the sudden visitation. A change in the drinking water caused a typhoid epidemic and ten persons died from the affliction.

BOYERTOWN

The first settlement at Boyertown was one of the oldest in the county. David Powell secured two hundred acres by patent in 1718, and this land is now embraced in the northern and western sections of the borough. About that time, iron ore was discovered on this land and shortly afterward, about 1720, a furnace was erected near by. As a consequence, this land came to be known as the furnace tract. The furnace was called Colebrookdale, named after a town in England, and it was the first iron furnace erected in Pennsylvania. Upon the creation of the township, in

1741, it was named after the furnace. This industry was carried on for about fifty years.

INCORPORATION.—Boyertown is situated along the Colebrookdale railroad, eight miles northwest from Pottstown. By public road it is about seventeen miles east of Reading, not far from the Montgomery county line. Henry Boyer was among the early settlers, he having secured a tract of land from Henry Stauffer, who in 1769 had purchased a large farm which embraced this section of country. Boyer established a tavern and general store and in time a settlement was formed, which took the name of Boyertown. His descendants have occupied great prominence in the business, financial and social affairs of the place to the present time. In 1835 the place was regularly laid out in town lots; and in 1866 it became an incorporated borough.

In 1851, an effort had been made to establish a borough, but it was unsuccessful. A second attempt was made in April, 1866, which received the favorable consideration of the grand jury and the court, and in October of that year the decree of incorporation was made. The first town council was composed of William Fegley, Samuel Shaner, Dr. John Todd, Samuel Lefevre, and William Binder.

In 1869 the Colebrookdale railroad was constructed from Pottstown through the borough to Barto and this stimulated enterprises of various kinds, the increase of buildings and population.

In 1895 the limits of the borough were extended by the addition of forty-three acres, forty perches.

In 1909 the borough contained:

Dry goods stores	3	Fire companies	2
Large general store	1	Halls	3
Grocery stores	10	Newspaper office	1
Clothing store	1	Photographer	1
5 and 10 cent store	1	Local Insurance Co.	1
Hotels	4	Tinsmith shops	3
Liquor store	1	Carpet weaver	1
Drug stores	2	Barbers	5
Printing offices	2	Churches	6
Livery stables	2	Banks	2
Millinery stores	2		

FIRST TAXABLES.—The names of the first taxables of the borough were as follows:

John Addams	William Fegley
Mrs. Bechtel -	Jacob Fred
Sophia Lafayette Bleyler	David H. Fox
Henry H. Borneman	William Grim
Daniel B. Boyer	Philip Gable
Daniel Boyer, Sr.	Frederick W. Graff
George Blyer	Daniel Heller
John H. Borneman	I. B. Hankey
William Bender	Harrison Houck
Daniel Borneman	Jonathan Kepler
Joseph H. Borneman	Mrs. Koch
Franklin Buchert	William A. Kehl
John Deysher	Samuel Leaver
David K. East	David H. Leaser
William Fegley	George Mull
	Anna Neidig

Catharine Rhoads
Peter Reidenauer
Henry B. Rhoads
Sarah Reidenauer
Elam C. Rhoads
Jeremiah Schweinhart
William K. Stauffer
Guard Stauffer
Levi B. Stauffer
Christian Stauffer
Frederick Stauffer
Frederick Schweinhart
Samuel Shaner
John K. Stauffer
Thomas Shaner

Guard Shaner
Jacob K. Stauffer
Frank Stauffer
Henry Stauffer
Jeremiah Stauffer
Henry Schwartz
John Todd, M. D.
Zephaniah Underceffer
Stover Worman
Lewis Worman
Jacob L. Weidner
George Yahn
Conrad Yerger
Joseph Young

Tenants

Maybury Brumbach
Josiah Bear
Samuel Connard
George Endy
Henry H. Eshbach
Jonathan Engel
Alfred Fritz
Aaron Fisher
George Fegely
John H. Funk
John Fegely
Charles Grant
Joel Grim
Isaac Gehris
Gabriel Ganer
Mahlon Grant
Henry Hoffman
Frederick M. Heller
Henry M. Heller
Abner M. Heller
Mrs. Hollenbach
Charles Kline
Daniel Meyer
Moses Moses
Joseph Moses
Aaron Mory
Susan Neidig

Single Men

Joel B. Bauer
Franklin Brendlinger
Joseph Case
Henry Eshbach
Jonathan East
David Erb
Charles Frey
Orlando Fegely
Alfred Ludy
Urias Ludy
Jeremiah Gehris
Ephraim Ganser
Adam R. Gilbert
Thomas Henrich
I. C. Hankey
Andrew Krogewicht
Samuel Moses
John Sassaman
Jacob B. Stauffer
Leonard Shilling
John Siesholtz
Frederick Weaver

LIST OF OFFICIALS.—The following list embraces the names of the chief burgesses and the justices of the peace who have served the borough:

CHIEF BURGESSES

Jonathan Kepler	1866-68
Samuel Shaner	1869
Dr. Thomas J. B. Rhoads	1870-75
William K. Grim	1876-81; 1884-85
John Stauffer	1882
John Deysher	1883; 1890-94
Franklin Hartman	1886
Richard Richards	1887
John Schaeffer	1888-89
John G. Schealer	1894-97; 1900-03
George G. Hartman	1897-1900
Dr. Reuben B. Rhoads	1903-06
Dr. D. R. Kohler	1906-09
Levi E. Lefever	1909-12



JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

William K. Stauffer	1877-72
Jeremiah K. Grant	1870-75
Isaac B. Hankey	1873-81
Levi M. Koons	1875-83
Henry B. Rhoads	1881-86
William H. Fox	1886-1911
Calvin F. Eames	1883-92
V. B. Emery	1892-93
Irvin T. Ehst	1893-98
Charles R. Buck	1898-1903
Lewis M. Wartman	1903-08
Oswin A. H. Jacobs	1908-12

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

<i>Chief Burgess,</i> Levi E. Lefever	
<i>Town Council,</i> George K. Moore, President	
John G. Schwenk	
Jacob H. Sassaman	
Conrad Lochman	
B. F. Nyce	
Raymond Schaeffer	
Dr. Charles B. Dotterrer	
<i>School Board,</i> Henry H. Reinert	
Efvinger W. Leaver	
Wallace Y. Reigner	
William W. Wren	
William L. Rhoads	
John L. Bauer*	
<i>Justices of the Peace,</i> William H. Fox	
O. A. H. Jacobs	
<i>Constable,</i> Charles E. Kline	
<i>Auditors,</i> George P. Rahn	
Thomas R. Houck	
William D. Schoeney	
<i>Assessor,</i> Lewis M. Wartman	
<i>Collector,</i> Richard B. Rhoads	

POST OFFICE.—The post-office at Boyertown was established in 1828. It has daily twenty mails. There are two rural free delivery routes from this office—one to Englesville, and the other to Greshville and Gablesville; and three "Star" routes by stage—to Reading, to Limerick Square, and to New Hanover. Postmasters since 1885: William K. Grim, 1885 to 1889; William W. Wren, 1889 to 1893; Benjamin J. Rhoads, 1893 to 1897; and William W. Wren, since 1897.

INDUSTRIES

Iron Ore Mines.—Iron ore has been mined in the Boyertown mines for upward of 150 years. The deposit is a high-grade Bessemer magnetic ore, pronounced by experts as superior in quality and yielding 55 per cent of metallic iron. Four shafts have been sunk in the operations and their depth is respectively 500, 515, 615 and 720 feet. Large engines were used to raise the ore and pump out the water. Horse-power applied to large drums was used until 1855. The mines were operated extensively by different parties; among them Gabel, Jones & Gabel, and the Phoenix Iron Company. In 1901 the Boyertown Ore Company was organized to carry on the mines, with a capital of \$300,000, and it was in active operation until January, 1902, when Wm. G. Rowe, a practical mine

* Dr. Charles A. Smith resigned as a school director in February, and John L. Bauer was elected to fill the vacancy.

operator, and identified with this plant for many years, became the purchaser for a syndicate of capitalists. The property was then put in condition for operating the works and since then over 15,000 tons have been taken out. It is estimated that over eight hundred thousand tons of ore have been removed from this deposit. Next to Cornwall, it is the largest mine opened in Pennsylvania.

Cigar Factories.—D. S. Erb started the manufacture of cigars in 1864 and he has continued with increasing success until the present time. For some years past he has traded under the name of D. S. Erb & Co. with his sons as partners. He erected a fine three-story brick building for his business in 1882. He employs about one hundred hands and produces 400,000 cigars monthly.

Otto Eisenlohr & Bros., of Philadelphia, located at Boyertown in 1902, erecting a large three-story brick factory, 40 by 175 feet. In 1906 they erected an addition 40 by 80 feet. They employ from 425 to 450 hands and produce annually over 20,000,000 cigars. Alfred P. Graver is their manager. They started at Philadelphia in 1850. This firm also operates a large factory at Reading.

Cigar-box Factory.—In 1876, William W. Wren started the manufacture of cigar boxes at Boyertown and carried on the business until 1897, when F. S. Koons became associated with him under the firm name of Wren & Koons. They operated the factory in a successful manner, employing from twenty-five to thirty hands and producing weekly from 12,000 to 15,000 boxes, until February, 1909, when Mr. Wren was obliged to retire on account of the condition of his health and of his position as postmaster, and he sold his interest in the business to his partner.

Machine Shops.—Daniel Schlegel has operated a machine shop since 1875, and also dealt in engines, pumps and machinery supplies.

Charles O. Megerly, after learning the trade of machinist under Mr. Schlegel and remaining with him several years, started a shop for himself in 1907.

Bakeries.—Albert S. Leidy embarked in the baking business at Boyertown about twenty-five years ago and carried on the bakery until 1906, when he was succeeded by his son Albert. Six hands are employed and two delivery teams.

George W. Carver started a bakery in 1898, and has carried it on since. He employs ten hands and four delivery teams.

Besides supplying the borough with bread, pies and cakes, a large quantity is distributed daily in the surrounding country districts.

Furniture.—The D. C. Brumbach Furniture Company was organized in 1880 for the purpose of dealing in furniture, carpets, rugs, oil-cloth, etc., and has since carried on a large and successful business with J. J. Brown as its efficient man-

ager. It carries a large and valuable stock on hand. An undertaking department has been connected with the enterprise.

Nyce Planing-Mill was established by Benjamin F. Nyce in 1886 and he has carried it on since. He employs from ten to fifteen hands.

Hartman Carriage Factory.—Frank Hartman and M. R. Strunk started the manufacture of carriages and business wagons in 1881, but after operating the works for a year, Mr. Strunk retired, to become manager of the Boyertown Burial Casket Company. Mr. Hartman has been carrying on the plant in a successful manner until the present time. He employs from twenty to thirty hands and disposes of his product in Berks and the surrounding counties.

Burial Casket Works.—The largest industrial plant at Boyertown is that of the Burial Casket Company. This was organized and incorporated in 1893 with a capital of \$20,000. Since then the management of this great enterprise has been a continuous and increasing success. The capital was increased to \$100,000 and four large four-story brick structures have been put up to answer the demands of its trade. Now it is next to the largest concern of the kind in the United States, with a complete equipment in every department. The company employs over three hundred hands, ships daily about one hundred caskets and consumes annually over three million feet of lumber. It has always on hand a large stock of caskets, lumber, and furnishing materials. A large branch establishment is maintained at Philadelphia. The manager of the plant is M. R. Strunk, and he has filled the position most satisfactorily since its incorporation.

Union Foundry.—The Union Manufacturing Company was organized in 1894 with a capital of \$50,000 for manufacturing all kinds of castings, but more especially sad-irons. It has been operated since in a successful manner, employing from fifty to sixty hands. John G. Schealer (ex-burgess, an enterprising builder of the place), has been its president since 1897. Sixty hands are employed.

Knitting Mills.—In 1895 George W. Unger removed from Shoemakersville to Boyertown and erected a knitting-mill for manufacturing ladies' underwear. He has carried it on since, and employs from fifty to sixty hands. In 1900 Dr. L. K. Francis & Son erected a similar plant and they employ from forty to fifty hands.

Paper Box Factory.—Mahlon J. Dellicker started making paper boxes in 1896 in the Rhoads building. After operating the enterprise in a limited way for several years he sold out to Amos Hartman and the industry was removed to the old school building opposite the railroad station, which was leased for that purpose. In 1901, Mr. Hartman's son Augustus became the owner. The factory was finely equipped and provided employment for ten to fifteen hands. He sold the

establishment in December, 1908, to the Boyertown Paper Box Company, which was then organized by a number of business men from Pottstown. J. A. Parker became the general manager and Mr. Hartman the foreman. The plant was much enlarged. Twenty hands are employed.

Marble Yard.—William Shollenberger carried on a marble yard for some years until he was killed in the Boyertown fire; then he was succeeded by his brother Franklin.

Butcher Shop.—Ham Y. Lechner has conducted a butchering establishment and general meat shop since 1890.

Horse Market.—Boyertown has been a prominent horse market for fifty years. William Binder was the first dealer to develop an extensive trade and he was succeeded by his sons Henry M. and Franklin, who followed the business for twenty years.

Jacob Wallach started as a dealer in horses at Eshbach in 1866. He located at Boyertown in 1870 and since then has been very active and successful in the business, more especially in supplying heavy draught horses, weighing upward of 1,800 and 2,000 pounds, to New York parties. In 1904 he and his sons-in-law, Mark Rosenberg and Moses Deegan, established a large stock stable several miles from Boyertown near Grim's Mill, where they have on hand from fifty to two hundred heavy horses, which command large prices on account of their exceptional size, weight and strength.

Orchards.—Dr. John H. Funk started the cultivation of fruit at Boyertown about 1881 and continued until 1892, when John G. Schealer became his successor and he has operated the orchard, containing about eighteen acres, until the present time. His crops are almost entirely apples and pears, though he cultivates large quantities of strawberries. He also manufactures annually in the fall of the year about twenty-five hundred barrels of cider.

In 1894, Dr. Funk started a large peach and apple orchard on the Jacob K. Stauffer farm, containing sixty acres, and since then has produced great quantities of peaches and apples. His son is engaged in the truck business; also in the cultivation of flowers.

Hotels.—The first public house was opened here in 1805 by Michael Boyer and it occupied the site of the Union House. The present large brick building (three stories) was erected in its stead by William Binder. Daniel B. Boyer purchased it in 1861, and owned it until he died in 1890, when it became the property of his two sons, James and Horace. The Keystone House was erected by Henry Boyer in 1850; and the William Penn (afterward called the Mansion House) by Charles Fegley in 1870. Subsequently other places were licensed and for a time the borough had six; but for several years it has had only four.

NATIONAL BANKS.—The National Bank of Boyertown was chartered in 1874 with a capital of \$100,000. In November, 1908, the resources of the bank were \$1,118,378. The individual deposits then were \$255,525, and the time deposits \$434,403, with undivided profits of \$21,713. The par value of the stock is \$100, but the market value was then over \$300, evidencing the superior management of this banking institution. E. K. Schultz is president, and M. H. Schealer cashier. Daniel L. Rhoads was the first president, until his death in 1896; the second was Jacob Wallach, who served until 1901.

The Farmers' National Bank of Boyertown was chartered in 1883 with a capital of \$50,000. In November, 1908, the resources were \$267,005; individual deposits, \$113,742; and certificates of deposits, \$49,013. Dr. Thomas J. B. Rhoads has been the president since 1883; and Dr. Edwin M. Herbst the cashier since 1907.

INSURANCE COMPANY.—The Boyertown Mutual Fire Insurance Company was incorporated Jan. 2, 1886, and has been successfully maintained until now, levying only twenty assessments in twenty-four years. The total insurance in force amounts to four millions of dollars. L. P. G. Fegley was the organizer and has been the secretary from the beginning; and Dr. T. J. B. Rhoads the treasurer. William K. Grim officiated as the president until he died in August, 1905, and he was succeeded by William D. Kehl, who has served since.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Water Company.—A water company was organized and incorporated in 1856 to supply Boyertown with water, and it established a reservoir on the hill west of the town. The plant was carried on by the company until 1902, when it was transferred to the borough, and enlarged.

Light.—The streets were lighted for many years by oil lamps on posts along the sidewalks, until Dr. Reuben B. Rhoads became the burgess in 1903, and in his term gasoline lamps were substituted, which made a great improvement. In 1906 a gas company was organized to introduce illuminating gas for lighting the streets and buildings, and the pipe-mains were put down just before the streets were paved with vitrified brick.

In 1908 an electric company was incorporated and the streets began to be lighted by electricity on April 1, 1909, under contract with the borough.

Trolley Line.—The Oley Valley railway was constructed from Reading to Boyertown, by way of Friedensburg, Pleasantville and Shanesville, and opened for travel by means of electric propulsion in 1902. The subject of this railway line had been agitated unsuccessfully for many years. The eastern terminus was fixed at a point in the southerly end of the borough on account of certain conditions exacted by the council for reaching the center of the borough which the company could not accept, but in 1906 an agreement was

reached in efforts to extend the line to Pottstown, through the borough by way of Ringing Rocks Park and Gilbertsville, this line being opened for travel Oct. 1, 1906; and the line from Reading to the borough boundary was extended to the railroad crossing on Philadelphia street in 1908 while the vitrified brick pavement was being laid, and the transfer of passengers was started June 1, 1908, affording through travel from Reading to Pottstown.

Fire Companies.—In 1865, a volunteer fire company was organized for protection from fire, and a small hand-engine was secured by a popular subscription, but in a few years the borough purchased the apparatus. In 1873, a second company was formed by the name of Keystone Fire Company, and it was supplied with a Silsby steam fire-engine, hose carriage and truck, with 600 feet of leather hose. A leased property was used until 1878, when the borough purchased a lot and erected thereon a two-story frame building for the apparatus, and this has been occupied until the present time. The upper story was set apart as a town-hall, and it has been used since by the council.

In 1882, a hook and ladder company was organized, which was named "Friendship"; and this has been maintained since. In 1902 this company erected a fine two-story brick building for its apparatus. The second story has been used as an amusement hall, and for fairs, lectures, etc.

NEWSPAPERS.—In 1858, O. P. Wink started the publication of a German newspaper called the *Boyertown Bauer (Farmer)*. It was continued until 1868, when George Sassaman purchased the publication and changed the name to *Boyertown Democrat*. In 1860, Charles Spatz became the proprietor. Some years afterward, he added an English department. He continued the publication in a successful manner until his decease in 1884, when his son Charles became the proprietor, and the son has issued it with increasing success until the present time. The use of the German language was discontinued in 1889. It has been a consistent advocate of Democratic principles from the beginning. In 1906 a linotype machine was introduced to facilitate the printing of the newspaper. A job printing office is connected with the establishment. He also published the *Boyertown Bauer* in the German language from 1889 until 1907, when it was discontinued.

CHURCHES.—The first church was erected here in 1790 by the Mennonites on land donated by Henry Stauffer. In 1819 a brick building was erected in its stead. In 1847 a dissension arose in the congregation on account of dress and some of the fundamental doctrines of this denomination, which resulted in the formation of two congregations, called the old church and the new. The two congregations, however, occupied the same church on alternate Sundays until 1877, when the old body determined to tear down the



church and erect a larger building in its stead. The new body tried to restrain them by proceeding at law, but failed, and then they also erected a building which was dedicated in 1884. The two bodies still maintain separate organizations with a small membership.

Members of the Lutheran and Reformed denominations united in erecting a "Union Church" in 1811 on land donated by Henry Stauffer, adjoining the Mennonites. It was occupied by them jointly until 1873, when the Reformed became the sole owner and they proceeded to erect a new building in 1874, which was dedicated in 1876, the total cost reaching \$35,000. The Lutherans had determined in 1870 to erect a new building. They started in 1871 and the church was formally dedicated in 1872, the cost being also \$35,000.

Adherents of the Methodist Episcopal denomination organized a congregation at Boyertown and erected a church in 1876.

The United Evangelical Association erected a small one-story brick church in 1895 in the eastern section of the town, and the congregation has maintained its organization until now.

SCHOOLS.—Education was encouraged by the people from the beginning of the town. The township accepted the free school system in 1838. A township school was in the borough when established in 1866, which was enlarged in 1876, and in 1887 a second building was erected, on the rear of the lot, which was used for high school purposes. These two buildings were used until the new and commodious two-story brick building was erected by the borough in 1898, when all the schools excepting the high school, were transferred to this building. The property is still owned by the borough, the front building being rented. The schools were graded in 1878. In 1906, there were ten schools, with 428 scholars. By a special election in February, 1909, it was decided to erect a new school building in the western section of the borough to accommodate the children in that vicinity.

Several select schools were carried on here in a very successful manner for about forty years. The Mount Pleasant Seminary was founded by John Stauffer in 1842. Jacob Whitman was the first principal. The Hankeys were prominent educators here for thirty years. The building afforded accommodations for fifty resident scholars. Day scholars were also in attendance. It was a popular institution for both sexes, and had a wide and excellent reputation.

When Prof. Isaac B. Hankey severed his connection, in 1866, he opened another and similar academy which he named "Kallynean," and carried it on for nearly twenty years.

KEYSTONE CORNET BAND was organized in 1875 and has been kept up until the present time, the performers numbering twenty and upward. Charles O. Megerly was a recent instructor and

the leader for several years, until 1906, when he was succeeded by John Heydt.

PHYSICIANS.—The active and prominent physicians at Boyertown since 1840 have been Dr. Henry W. Johnston, Dr. William Keely, Dr. Erasmus R. Scholl, Dr. Thomas J. B. Rhoads, Dr. John Todd, and Dr. John S. Bornemann.

LOCAL AUTHOR.—Dr. Thomas J. B. Rhoads, notwithstanding a very active medical practice covering the surrounding country for many miles, and an enterprising disposition in forwarding the industrial and financial affairs of Boyertown, for forty years, devoted some of his time to reminiscence and authorship, which resulted in the publication of two very interesting octavo volumes, entitled "Onkel Jeff's Reminiscences of Youth and Other Poems," the first having been issued in 1904, and the second in 1906. They display keen observation, much humor and pleasing originality.

OPERA HOUSE FIRE.—An exhibition was being held in the Rhoads Opera House of Boyertown for the benefit of the Sunday-school attached to St. John's Lutheran Church, on Monday evening, Jan. 13, 1908, and the performance, relating to "The Scottish Reformation," was being produced under the direction of Mrs. H. E. Monroe, of Washington, D. C. The auditorium on the second story was crowded with an interested audience. A large calcium light was being used for the purpose of showing the tableaux effectively and suddenly a cap on one of the tanks exploded which startled the audience. Immediately there were shooting flames and instantaneous shrieks and cries, when a sudden movement of the audience was made for the front door. The calamity that followed is indescribable, for 171 persons lost their lives by the fire, 123 from Boyertown, 48 from other places.

Victims of Fire.—The following lists show the names and residences of the victims.

Boyertown—123

James Anderson
Mrs. James Anderson
Marigold Anderson
Morris M. Anderson*
Mrs. Morris M. Anderson
Norman Anderson
Annie Bauman
Walter Bauman
Lottie Bauman
Edna Bauman*
Mrs. John Becker
Alma Becker
Mary Becker
H. M. Binder
Mrs. Layanna Bortz
Edna Boyer
J. Keely Boyer*
Clara Brendlinger
Mrs. Katie Christman
Irvin Clemmer
Mrs. Esther Cullen*
Rosie Diamond
Florence Eddinger

Edwin C. Emrick
Emma Engele
Esther Erb*
Lulu Fegley
Harry Foreman
Mrs. Harry Foreman
Sophia Foreman
Nellie Foreman
Irene Foreman
Mrs. L. K. Francis
Layanna Francis
John S. Fritz*
Ida Fritz*
Abraham Gabel
Daniel Gabel
Mrs. Daniel Gabel
May Geyer
Herbert Gottshall
Mrs. Herbert Gottshall
Ellen Gottshall
Mabel Graeff
John Graver†
Lottie Graver†
Lillie Grim
Ruth Guard

Mrs. Amos Hartman
 Carrie Hartman
 Vernia Hartman
 Charles Hartman
 Charles Hless
 Mrs. Wallace Hoffman
 Lottie Hoffman*
 John Hoffman
 Russell Houck
 Ephraim Johnson*
 Mrs. Ephraim Johnson
 Jacob Johnson†
 Mrs. Charles Kline, Jr.‡
 Mabel Kochel
 Blanche Kochel
 Stella Kolb
 Mrs. William Krause
 Stella Krause
 Daniel Krause
 Robert LaPish*
 Marie LaPish*
 Maggie Lefever
 Hiram Leidy*
 Laura Leidy
 Horace Leidy
 Mrs. Horace Leidy
 Franklin Leidy
 Howard Leidy
 Mrs. Harry Leinbach
 Mrs. Isaac Lichtel*
 Newton Lichtel*
 Mary Ludwig
 Charles W. H. Maurer
 Charles E. Mayer
 Guendolyn Mayer
 Mrs. George Moore
 Mrs. Harry Moyer
 George Moyer
 Charles Nuss
 Mrs. Charles Nuss
 Harold Nuss
 Aaron Ochsenford
 Mrs. Aaron Ochsenford
 George Parsons
 Mrs. George Parsons
 Stella Peters
 Laura Rhoads
 Edith Rhoads
 Annie Ritter
 Mrs. George Romig
 Mrs. Addison Schmoyer
 William S. Schollenberger
 Mrs. W. Shollenberger
 Mrs. F. Shollenberger
 Mrs. George Schoenly*
 Mrs. Henry Shaner
 Charles Shaner
 Paul Shaner
 Ira Shober
 Mrs. Ira Shober
 Mrs. George J. Smith
 Edwin B. Stauffer
 Emma Stauffer
 Lulu Stauffer
 Mrs. Isabella Tabor
 Mrs. Amos Thompson
 Mrs. R. Turner, Jr.
 J. Warren Van Reed
 Venia Weand
 Martha Weber
 Mrs. Henry Wien*
 Carrie Wien

Florence Wien
 Elizabeth Yoder
 Carrie Yeager
Amityville
 Mrs. Rebecca Francis
Eskbach
 Dr. Frank F. Brunner
 Carrie Leaver*
Gabelsville
 Mrs. Henry Johnson
Gilbertsville
 Mrs. Renben Hoffman*
 Alice Hoffman*
 Austin Mensch
 Sallie Romig
 Robert Taggart*
 Mrs. Robert Taggart*
 Rose Taggart*
 Lizzie Ziegler
Hill Church
 Jacob Weller
 Mrs. Jacob Weller
 Ida Weller
Landis Store
 Nora Herbst
Lobachsville
 Edwin Fry
Morysville
 Mary Fisher
 Matilda Grabert
 Sallie Hartman
 Bertha Reinhardt
 Mamie Toms
 Mrs. William Toms‡
New Berlinville
 Mrs. Martin Bauman
 Mrs. Oswin Bauman*
 Carrie Bauman*
 Mrs. Hiram Clouser*
 Annie Derr
 Mrs. Willoughby Engel
 Hannah Haring
 Mrs. C. Ephraim Johnson
 Mrs. Herbert Johnson
 Alice Moyer
 Edna Moyer
 Florence Moyer
 Frances Moyer
 Stella Moyer
New Hanover
 Catharine Knipe
 Lizzie Knipe
 Emily Knipe
 Jeremiah Rhoads
Passmore
 Mrs. John Glase
Reading
 Clarence Miller
Sassamansville
 Stella Heinbach
 Mamie Jones
Shanesville
 Willoughby Bucher
Washington, D. C.
 Mrs. Della E. Mayers
Worman
 Wayne Romig

Coroner's Inquest.—The coroner of the county, Dr. Robert E. Strasser, impaneled the following jury of inquest: William H. Fox, Levi S. Dellecker, Edwin K. Shultz, Irvin T. Ehst, Daniel K. Hoch, and William Y. Levan (the first four from Boyertown, and the last two from Reading), to inquire into the cause of the deaths of the victims of the fire. The jury held six sittings, viewed the remains of 170 victims (which were not named), examined 48 witnesses, and on Jan. 30, 1908, agreed to the following report, which was filed in the office of the clerk of the court of Quarter Sessions on March 10th:

"That they (the 170 persons) came to their death on Jan. 13, 1908, at about 9:30 p. m., during a rendition [performance] under the auspices of St. John's Lutheran Church, Boyertown, in which a stereopticon picture-machine was used in Rhoads's Opera House, by stupefaction, suffocation, and fire.

"We find the primary cause thereof to have been the employment, by Mrs. Harriet E. Monroe, of an inexperienced and incompetent operator of the calcium light in the person of Henry Fisher, and the laxity of the Department Factory Inspector of this District, and the Department of Factory Inspector of the State of Pennsylvania, in the failure to enforce proper and adequate fire escapes and fire appliances, as well as its failure to enforce existing laws insuring public safety.

"We request the prosecuting attorney of Berks county to arrest, and, if possible, convict Mrs. Harriet E. Monroe, and Harry McBechtel, the Deputy Factory Inspector of this District, on the charge of criminal negligence.

"We recommend the enactment of laws as follows:

"1—Creating Departments of Public Safety and Buildings whose province shall be to provide for means and appliances to insure public safety in the Boroughs of this Commonwealth.

"2—Requiring that all operators of lights used in stereopticon and moving picture machines be obliged to undergo an examination, and if found competent certificates be issued to them by the Department of Factory Inspector."

Relief Committee.—The next day after the fire, the citizens held a meeting at Boyertown, and the following Relief Committee was appointed to look after the suffering families and provide the necessary relief:

Irwin T. Ehst, Chairman	Samuel I. Henry
O. A. H. Jacobs, Secretary	James S. Fryer
Wm. D. Schealer, Treas.	Ephraim S. Gehris
Milton R. Strunk	Daniel Fritz
Daniel B. Bower	Benjamin F. Nice

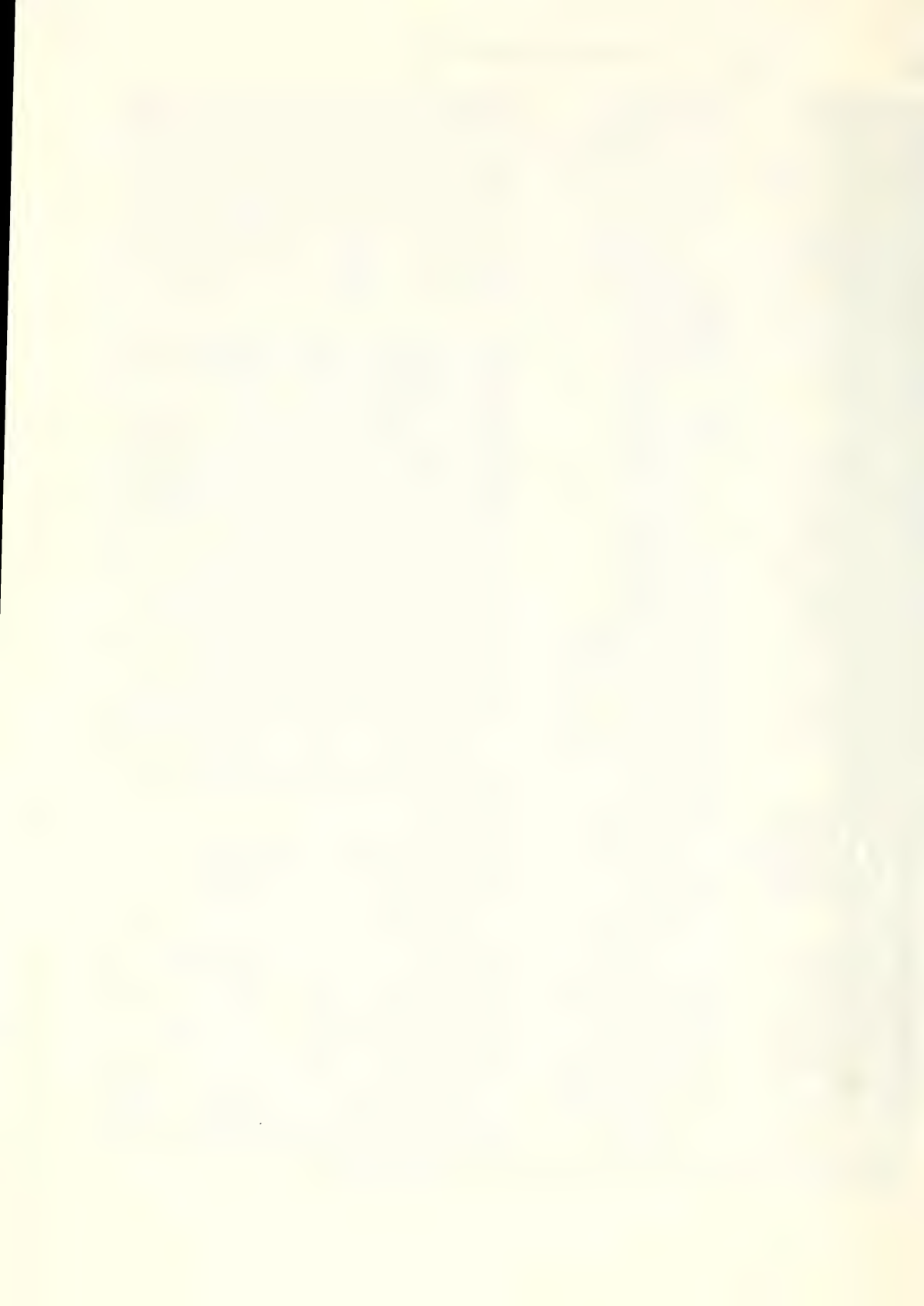
The total relief forwarded to the Relief Committee was as follows:

From Reading	\$6,375	From Philadelphia ..	2,708
From Kutztown	333	From Allentown ...	370
From Fleetwood	230	From Ashland	100
From Hamburg	200		
From Pottstown ...	2,868	Total	\$13,184
From Eisenlohr Brothers.....	\$1,000		
From Burial Casket Company.....	600		
From sundry persons, including Boyertown	7,291		\$8,591

Total relief forwarded

Part of this money was expended for the burial of the victims and the payment of various expenses; and certificates were issued by the National Bank of Boyertown (which was the depository) in trust for the following orphans:

* Unidentified.
 † Run over by a fire engine the evening of the fire and died from injuries received.
 ‡ Died after the fire.



Wayne Bauer	\$200	Florence Leinbach	175
Leonard Bowman	300	Royden Mayer	250
Paul Bowman	200	Leon Mayer	100
Emma Bucher	275	Henrietta Moore	125
Irene Bucher	175	Ruth Moyer	250
Edna Bucher	150	Paul Moyer	200
George Bucher	100	Leonard Moyer	150
Mary Bucher	100	Grace Moyer	125
Helen May Bucher.....	300	Gladys Moyer	100
Esther Cullen	200	Edna Moyer	100
George Cullen	175	Mabel Nester	125
John Cullen	100	Edith Peters	300
Francis Cullen	100	Norman Schoenly	125
Florence Cullen	100	Lawrence Schoenly ...	100
Annie Foreman	100	Russell Tabor	250
Frederick Foreman	125	Lloyd Tabor	250
Florence Foreman	190	Beulah Tabor	200
John Graver	275	Mabel Tabor	200
William Graver	250	Anna Thompson	250
Rebecca Hoffman	175	Alfred Thompson	125
Ernest Johnson	150	Helen Wien	100
Mary Johnson	100	Stuart Wien	100
Ella Krause	100		
William Leidy	100		
Paul Leinbach	200		
		Total	\$7,950

Public Sympathy.—Public sympathy was expressed by people everywhere in a truly Christian manner, and thousands of persons from the surrounding districts and places for many miles went to Boyertown in appreciation of the awful visitation. The display of mourning on all the streets, the funerals day after day for a week, and the solemnity of the whole town, were most affecting; but the order, dignity and composure of the people under these extraordinary circumstances displayed in a remarkable degree the Christian character of the community.

INDIAN CONFLICT.—In 1728, the early settlers of this section of the county had a conflict with the Indians and therefore a petition was subscribed by a number of the inhabitants who presented it to the Governor, having referred particularly to their sufferings and prayed for relief. The Governor visited the place and reported to the Executive Council that the Indians had been there for a number of days, and were well armed under the command of a captain. Some shots were fired, several were wounded and then the Indians left.

FLEETWOOD

The borough of Fleetwood is situated along the East Penn railroad, in Richmond township, twelve miles northeast from Reading. The settlement was first known as Coxtown, having been so called from a time anterior to 1800 until the establishment of the railroad in 1859, when the increasing settlement took the name of Fleetwood, after a prominent English capitalist who encouraged the construction of the railroad. The first considerable town plan was laid out and acknowledged by Thomas Mellon on May 11, 1868, the lots lying wholly to the east of the railroad.

The growth of the town was very slow, the total number of buildings erected there until the construction of the railroad not having been thirty; then there was a perceptible increase on account of the concentration of trade at that point, farmers

coming for many miles from the southeast and the northwest for the shipment of their freight and the purchase of their coal and lumber, and this increase has been kept up by the enterprising spirit of the place until the present time. During the past ten years there was a marked improvement in the erection of dwelling-houses, which included a number of costly and attractive houses.

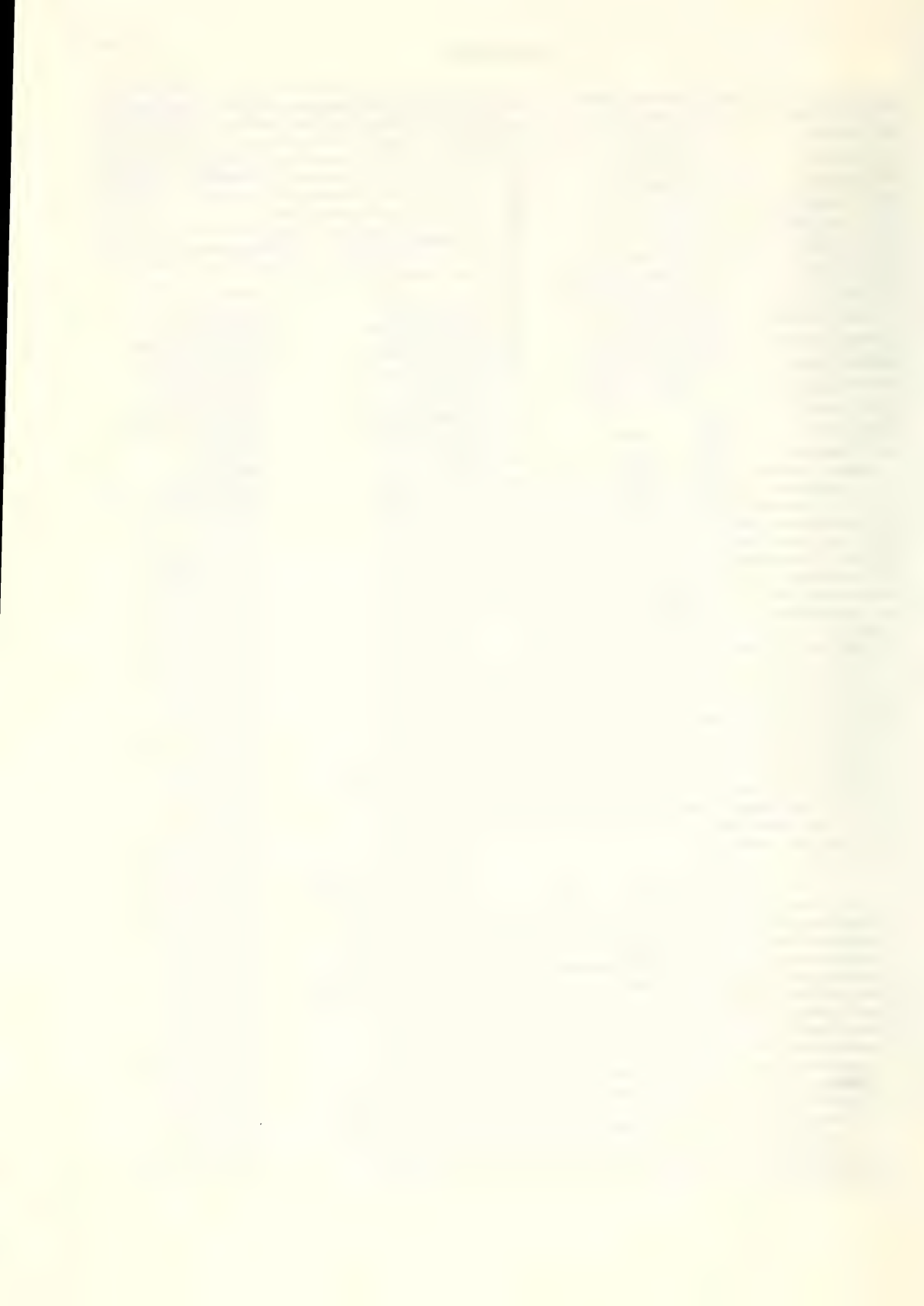
INCORPORATION AND FIRST TAXABLES.—The town was incorporated into a borough on Oct. 4, 1873. The names of the first taxables were as follows:

William Adam	Nicodemus Noll
John Angstadt	Maria Peter
Gideon Bridgeman	Reuben Rauenzahn
Franklin Barto	Betty Rothermel
William Bernhart	Elizabeth Reifsnnyder
Leinbach Bernhart	Peter Rothermel
Augustus Bierman	Samuel Rothermel
Levi Boyer	Cyrus Reifsnnyder
Bushong & Co. Manf.	Joshua Reber
Becker & Keller	William Reifsnnyder
George Cox & Co.	Reifsnnyder & Snyder
Adam Delp	Widow Resler
Jairus Deisher	Isaac Reiser
George Dewees	Amos Rider
Samuel Dunn	Jacob Rothermel
Jacob Dengler	Edwin Schollenberger
Moses Folk	William Scholl
Daniel Focht	Leonard Sweetzer
Peter Gehris	George Scholl
Solomon Hoch	Solomon Schlegel
Conrad Hill	Henry Schaeffer
Benjamin Hilbert	H. W. Schaeffer
George Heydt	William S. Schaeffer
William Kline	James Schaeffer
Isaac Koch	John Swartz
Jacob Kelchner	Daniel Schaeffer, Sr.
Samuel Kelchner	Widow Schlegel
Elias Kline	George B. Schaeffer
George Knoll	Samuel Schaeffer
George Kline	Joseph Slegel
Jonathan Kutz	Lewis Schaeffer
Joel Kelchner	George D. Schaeffer
Kline, Wanner & Co.	Moses Sayer
Amandus Kerns	George Sanders
Thomas Kreidler	Henry Sanders
Daniel Koch	Schaeffer, Merkel & Co.
Koch Mill	Cyrus Staudt
Samuel Kieffer	Widow Schugar
George Keller	D. K. Snyder
Israel Kline Est.	Samuel Schlegel
Charles Leise	Widow Stroh
Christian Laudenslager	Henry Schlegel
Dr. L. R. Lentz	William Schlegel
Lentz & Maurer	John Schollenberger
John W. Leise	William Schaeffer
Abby Leaman	Levi Templin
Thomas Leinbach	Templin Shop
Mary Messersmith	Melot Templin
Messersmith & Shafer	John Weindt
Charles A. Messersmith	Lucy Weston
John Maurer	Jonas Weaver
John Madeira	Weaver Shop
Amos Melot	Peter Wentzel
Daniel Melot	Kelchner Wanner
Levi Madeira	Widow Wanner
Madeira Shop	E. C. Weston
William Madeira	Lewis Wanner
Melot & Hilbert	Joel Wartenluft
Melot, Kline & Co.	John Yoder

Tenants

Daniel Barnett

P. T. Brumbach



John Boyer
 Benneville Buskirk
 Martin Boyer
 William D. Becker
 Jacob Becker
 Benneville Brown
 Solomon Billman
 Levi Dunn
 Benneville Dewees
 Davis Dieffenderfer
 William Ehrling
 Clinton Ely
 Samuel Fisher
 William Folk
 Henry Gehris
 Jacob Gift
 Samuel Gruber
 Hiram Gamler
 Daniel Heydt
 Abraham Heck
 Nathaniel Heck
 Isaac Heydt
 Mandon Hawk
 John Kline
 Adam Kline
 Alfred Kamp
 Jacob Koch
 Jacob Kline

George Krick
 Peter Koch
 Kline & Bros.
 Jacob Lutz
 Peter Leise
 John Merkel
 E. M. Mill
 Jonathan Mertz
 Lucian Miller
 Jacob Noll
 Ephraim Peter
 John Rothermel
 James Readinger
 Amos Rothermel
 William Reiff
 Jacob Reaser
 Jacob Rightenour
 Henry Reifsnnyder
 John Shadler
 F. P. Schaeffer
 Joshua Schlegel
 James Templin
 Monroe Weaver
 Davis Weidner
 Peter Yoder
 E. D. G. Yorgey
 Jacob Zern

Single Men

Aber Adam
 John Boyle
 Joel Bushey
 William Becker
 William R. Becker
 Daniel Collier
 Levan Chauncey
 James Dunn
 Gideon Deisher
 Daniel Kramer
 Obediah Keller
 Jacob Klein
 Isaac Kline
 John B. Keller
 Daniel Kehlner
 Cosmus Leise

Wilson Leiby
 Amos Madeira
 Peter Mertz
 William Melot
 Samuel Madeira
 Daniel K. Rothermel
 Peter Rothermel
 Jacob Schaeff
 Henry Schlegel
 Daniel Schaeffer
 Edwin Strahn
 Zacharias Schugar
 Levi Wartenluft
 Henry Wartenluft
 Peter Wanner

George D. Schaeffer 1889; 1903-06
 John E. Maurer 1890
 Isaac Mertz 1891-93
 John B. Bertolette 1894-1900
 Nathan Henry Gehris 1900-03
 Cyranus F. Boyer 1906-09
 Charles F. Hill 1909-12

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Samuel Dunn 1873-76
 George D. Schaeffer 1873-79; 1904-05
 James F. Dunn 1876-99
 William Bernhart 1879-87
 Dr. A. N. Fretz 1887-1912
 John H. Reifsnnyder 1899-1900
 Harry D. Schaeffer 1900-04
 David K. Kline 1905-10

BOROUCO OFFICIALS—1909

Chief Burgess, Charles F. Hill
Town Council, Ambrose Hoffman, President
 M. H. Brensinger, Treasurer
 Titus H. Schaeffer
 Uriah Eisenhart
 John W. Lease
 William R. Down
 Calvin H. Adams, Secretary
School Board, D. M. Herbine, President
 O. M. Koller, Secretary
 E. D. Dengler, Treasurer
 Simon B. Stouidt
 John Brown
 N. S. Schaeffer

Justices of the Peace, Dr. A. N. Fretz
 F. W. Balthaser

Constable, George Herring

Auditors, George Schlegel
 Howard Herbine

Assessor, Elias Dries

Collector, Elias Dries

POST-OFFICE.—The post-office was established in 1852, and was named after the place, Coxtown; which name was continued until Fleetwood was incorporated.

INDUSTRIES.—The first important industry at Fleetwood was the large foundry erected by the Schaeffer Brothers (Lewis, George D., Daniel, and Jonathan) in 1864 for the manufacture of farming implements and mining machinery, and they carried on the plant successfully until 1872. The firm name was then changed to Schaeffer, Merkel & Co., and they carried on the business for thirty years, employing from 125 to 150 hands. In 1903 the buildings were destroyed by fire.

The industrial establishments now at Fleetwood are the following, the number of hands employed indicating the large extent of the business:

Reading Metal Body Works, 175 hands.

York Silk Mill, 100 to 150 hands.

Hosiery Mills: D. F. Kehlner, 75 hands; Wanner & Madeira, 60 hands; Kutz Hosiery Mill, 35 hands.

Charles F. Hill Granite Works, 50 hands.

Seaman & Merkel Implements Works, 12 hands.

Eagle Roller Mills (carried on by Webster D. and Llewellyn D. Schaeffer, trading as Schaeffer, Wanner & Co., whose business includes a large coal and lumber yard); 8 hands.

Jacob C. Gottshall Bakery, 3 hands.

In 1906 the taxables numbered 251; the taxable property was assessed at \$452,980; money at interest was \$198,734; and the borough then included the following:

Industries	12	Physicians	2
General Stores	4	Churches	4
Hardware Store	1	School Buildings	2
Drug Store	1	Restaurants	3
Coal and Lumber Yards ..	2		

LIST OF OFFICIALS.—The names of the chief burgesses, town clerks and justices of the peace from the beginning of the borough to the present time, and the time when the incumbents filled their respective positions, are as follows:

CHIEF BURGESSES

Levi Templin	1874
John E. Maurer	1875-76
Lewis Schaeffer	1877
William H. Madeira	1878
William S. Merkel	1879-80
Cosmus Schwoyer	1881
A. C. Kemp	1882
E. M. Shollenberger	1883
John Hehman	1884
J. P. Hoch	1885-86
Isaac R. Merkel	1887-88



D. F. Kelchner Creamery.

William Doren Tool Works, 3 hands.

Wesley Kern Pick Works, 2 hands.

Schlegel, Adam & Co., coal and lumber, 4 hands.

Fleetwood Metal Body Company.

NATIONAL BANK.—The First National Bank of Fleetwood was chartered on June 29, 1907, with a capital of \$25,000 and the business was started Dec. 7, 1907. In November, 1908, the resources of the bank were \$143,675; and the loans and discounts, \$67,924; individual deposits, \$56,429; and the savings deposits, \$34,050. The president from the beginning has been Daniel F. Kelchner (a prominent manufacturer at Fleetwood); and the cashier, Warren G. Hartman.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Water Works.—In 1889 water works were established, for supplying the inhabitants of the borough with water, by George B. Schaeffer, Dr. Levi R. Lentz and Peter D. Wanner, who organized and incorporated a company for that purpose with a capital of \$25,000. The reservoir was located a mile east of the town in an elevated position, with a capacity of 300,000 gallons, and since then the town has been supplied with an abundance of pure spring water. Steps have been instituted by the borough authorities for the purchase of the works.

TROLLEY LINE.—The trolley line was extended from Temple to Kutztown, passing through Fleetwood, in 1904.

CHURCHES.—There are four churches at Fleetwood:

St. Paul's Union Church (Lutheran and Reformed) is situated a short distance west of the borough on the road to Blandon. It is a two-story stone building, plastered, which was erected in 1841. Services have been held regularly in it until the present time. It has a large membership.

The Evangelical Association erected a two-story brick church on Franklin street in 1866 and worshipped there until 1890, when they sold it and erected another on Washington street. In this the members continued until the separation occurred in 1894, when the United Evangelical Association became the owner, and the latter organization has since maintained a congregation in it.

The United Mennonite Church was erected in 1868 by a small number of zealous Christians of that faith and they have shown much devotion until the present time.

A fourth church was erected in the borough by a number of members of the St. Paul's Union Church, for the purpose of carrying on worship as an organized Christian body not connected with any synod. The movement was started in 1883 and culminated in the erection of a fine brick building on Franklin street, which was formally dedicated in 1884. The premises cost upward of \$7,000. It was named *St. Paul's Chapel*. The organization, under the direction of a board of trustees, has been carried on successfully until the present time.

Church services are held regularly. A flourishing Sunday-school is also maintained and heartily encouraged by the members.

CEMETERY.—In 1867 a large cemetery was laid out in the place on a lot 221 feet by 769 feet, situated on the main thoroughfare, and it has been made very attractive.

SCHOOLS.—In 1877, the borough erected a fine two-story brick school building on a large lot of ground at a cost exceeding \$6,000. A superior addition was built to it in 1908-09, costing \$10,000, with all the modern improvements. The schools are graded, well managed, and the scholars number over 500.

TOPTON

Topton is situated along the East Penn railroad, in Longswamp township, near the line of Maxatawny. It was started with the construction of the railroad in 1859 and derived its name from its location at the highest point on the railroad between Reading and Allentown. A branch railroad to Kutztown was opened for travel in 1870, the length being five miles.

When the railroad was completed in 1859, Tipton became a prominent shipping point, more especially for great quantities of iron ore mined in that vicinity, and this induced the immediate erection of a hotel and several business stands. The coal and lumber yards are patronized extensively and have developed a large trade.

INCORPORATION AND FIRST TAXABLES.—The town was incorporated into a borough in 1877, and the following list shows the names of the first taxables:

Bear & Miller	Adam J. Lighty
Charles Bear	Michael H. Miller
Benjamin C. Bear	Lewis Moll
James Butz	David Merkel
Henry Butz	John H. Miller
Henry C. Bear	James Madarey
John Bolst	Michael H. Miller
Bear & Merkel Co.	Benjamin Raut
Manoah Carl	Henry C. Raut
Peter L. Diener	Joshua Smith
Tilghman DeLong	J. D. Sander
Philip DeLong	Casper Seyebartyn
William Fenstermacher	Abraham Siegfried
Frank Fenstermacher	Peter Sterner
Henry M. Freed	Eugene Sholl
Peter W. Fisher	Llewellyn Shabbel
Fenstermacher, Trexler & Co.	Joshua Smith
James George	Sallie Siegfried
William M. Hoffman	Charles D. Trexler
Abraham Hilbert	Daniel Trump
John Hemmig	Jonas Trexler
Daniel D. Hinterleiter	William Trexler, M. D.
Hilbert Hinterleiter	Charles D. Trexler
Hannah Hinterleiter	Trexler & Moll
Nathan Heffner	Benjamin Wisser
Levi Kunes	Esther Zangley
Reuben S. Leibelsperger	

Tenants

William Baus	Matthias Deckert
Bear, Dieroft & Miller	Henry Diener
Samuel Baus	Stephen Dankle
Jacob Bechtel	Diener & Carl
Bear & DeLong	John Delp
Peter C. Conrad	Thomas Eck
John Drollinger	Josiah Fisher

Herman Fetterman
 Wilhelm Frederick
 Isaac Fegley
 John Gamler
 Charles A. K. Grime
 David Gerhart
 Joshua Hinterleiter
 Jonathan Herring
 William Halman
 William F. Heener
 E. J. S. Hoch
 William Hilbert

William F. Kerchner
 James Miller
 John J. Reader
 William Reinhard
 Thomas Reichelderfer
 William Scheerer
 Henry Sox
 Amentes Sterner
 Trexler & Moll
 William Weaver
 Minial Wies
 J. S. Ward

Single Men

Charles Butz
 Benjamin Carl
 Henry Ebert

Solon H. Fisher
 Jonathan Sterner
 Henry Wisner

LIST OF OFFICIALS.—The following lists show the names of the chief burgesses, town clerks and justices of the peace since the incorporation of the borough:

CHIEF BURGESSES

Peter W. Fisher	1877; 1891
John Henning	1878-82
S. H. Fisher	1883-86
A. C. S. Herman	1887-88
B. F. Lichtie	1889
Tilghman DeLong	1890
Charles H. Wisler	1892
Daniel B. Heist	1893-96
Cyrus Lessig	1897-1900
Martin Croll	1900-03
W. E. Ebert	1903-06
Benjamin E. Bieber	1906-09
James McKeever	1909-12

TOWN CLERKS

E. J. S. Hoch	1878
(Record lost from 1879 to 1888)	
C. D. Trexler	1888
F. H. Moyer	1889-92
A. S. Heffner	1893
M. H. Brendlinger	1894-1905
Charles H. Schlenker	1905-1910

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

L. F. Kuhns	1877-85
E. J. S. Hoch	1877-82
Dr. W. D. Trexler	1882-89
John H. Miller	1885-90
Daniel H. Heffner	1889-1901
Cyrus Lessig	1890-94
D. D. Hinterleiter	1894-99
Harvey A. Miller	1899-1914
Eldridge Zimmerman*	1901-06
George E. Moll	1907-12

BOROUGH OFFICIALS FOR 1909

Chief Burgess, James McKeever
Town Council, Jacob M. Gery, President
 Tilghman De Long
 Adam H. Folk
 Jeremiah Titlow
 C. H. Schwartz
 Irwin Madeira
 William H. Smith
 Charles H. Schlenker, Clerk
School Board, Dr. C. D. Werley
 Levi Walbert
 Frank Moyer
 Jacob Gallmoyer
 Michael Miller
 Elmer Croll

* Resigned upon taking office of Prothonotary, to which he was elected in November, 1906.

Assessor, Lewis Keller
Collector, Charles H. Wisler
Auditors, I. P. Madeira, Elwood F. DeLong, Frank J. Fister
Justices of the Peace, Harvey A. Miller, George E. Moll
Constable, Jacob H. Wisler
Road Commissioner, Frank Fenstermaker
Water Commissioner, John G. Miller

POST-OFFICE.—A post-office was established at Topton in 1861. Daniel D. Hinterleiter became the postmaster in 1897 and he served until his decease, when he was succeeded by his widow, and then by his daughter Hannah, evidencing the satisfactory service to the community rendered by his family.

INDUSTRIES.—After the Kutztown branch of railroad was opened, steps were taken to establish an iron furnace along the main line, a short distance east of the junction, and this was put in operation in 1871 by a company, of which Isaac McHose, of Reading, was the president. It was operated several years but then, owing to the panic, suspended. The Eckert Brothers at Reading carried it on successfully for about ten years until the decease of Henry S. Eckert; then it was purchased by the Empire Steel & Iron Company, which since 1894 has operated it successfully. This was the only prominent industry at the place for upward of twenty years. Then the DeLong Furniture Factory was started in 1880, and the Rohrbach Roller Flour Mill in 1885, both of which have been kept in active operation ever since, with their trade extending many miles into the surrounding counties. The store, office and bar fixtures of the former have become very popular for their neatness and durability.

Since 1900, great improvements have been made here in the erection of industrial establishments and fine dwellings. Besides the industries named, the borough includes the following:

Underwear Factory, carried on by O. C. Rohrbach; *Silk Mill*, by the Hartley Manufacturing Company; *Hosiery Mill*, by the Crown Knitting Company; *Creamery*, by A. S. Heffner; *Bakery*, by F. A. Trexler; *Topton Foundry and Machine Works (Inc.)* (transferred from Bernville); two lumber and coal yards; three general stores; three hotels.

The number of employees in the several industries will indicate the extent of the business affairs in the borough in 1909: Furnace, 100 hands; DeLong factory, 60; silk mill, 100; hosiery mill, 100; underwear mill, 30; Topton foundry, 25.

In 1907, twenty new dwelling houses were erected; in 1908, six; and arrangements have been made for erecting twenty in 1909.

William J. Fritz has been operating a large and successful saddlery for several years, which is equipped with the latest machinery for the manufacture of harness, affording constant employment for six hands.

Business in mining and shipping iron ore here is gradually resuming in 1909 after having been suspended for about fifteen years.

Josiah Fisher carried on the manufacture of building brick for upward of thirty years until in the spring of 1909, when the plant was sold to George Keiser.

Practising physicians at Topton are Dr. C. D. Werley and Dr. George Pflueger, the former having been here upward of twenty years.

The following persons prominent in business at Reading reside at Topton:

Martin S. Croll and William H. Smith, extensive wholesale dealers in hats since 1900. Mr. Croll had been the deputy Internal Revenue collector of the district comprising Berks county from 1893 to 1899.

James Trexler has been filling the office of stamp clerk in the Internal Revenue office at Reading since 1900.

Eldridge Zimmerman has been officiating as prothonotary of the county since January, 1907.

NATIONAL BANK.—A national bank was established in the borough in 1885 with a capital of \$50,000, and carried on for several years. A second was organized in 1906 with a capital of \$25,000, and since then Martin S. Croll has been its president, and Albert H. Smith, cashier. In November, 1908, the total resources were \$137,484; the individual deposits, 56,023; and time deposits, \$25,427.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Water-Works.—In 1893, the borough established water-works, embracing two reservoirs with a total capacity of 350,000 gallons, in an elevated situation one mile south of the place, having secured a large supply of superior spring water.

The streets are lighted by oil lamps. A fire company was organized by citizens of the town in February, 1909, and named the Topton Hose Company. It has secured a hose carriage with several hundred feet of hose and over fifty taxpayers have been enrolled as members.

Trolley Line.—A trolley line of railway is about being constructed from Lyons to Allentown by way of Topton and Alburtis.

Auditorium.—In 1905, M. T. Butz erected a frame auditorium for entertainments. It has a seating capacity of several hundred, and is well patronized by church festivals, fairs, lectures and local institutes.

CHURCHES.—In 1872, members of the Lutheran and Reformed denominations residing at Topton united in erecting a brick church, and the congregations have been carried on successfully since then, over 180 of the former having taken communion on Easter Day, 1909, and over 160 of the latter. Arrangements are being made for the erection of a larger building. The members formerly attended religious services in churches at Bower's, Mertztown and Longswamp.

The Evangelical Association organized a congregation in 1885 and caused the erection of a church in 1886, which has been maintained until now.

SCHOOLS.—The borough supports three schools in a superior two-story brick building. The scholars number more than one hundred and the annual expenditures exceed \$1,200.

ORPHANS' HOME.—In 1897, the Lutheran Church established a fine home for orphans in an elevated position a short distance south of Topton, which has been managed in a very successful manner. It was started with three inmates; now it has ninety (49 boys, 41 girls). Annual excursions in the fall of the year for the benefit of this worthy institution are very largely patronized. A similar home is maintained by the Reformer Church at Womelsdorf. [Mentioned in Ontelaunee Section, Chapter XII.]

LENHARTSVILLE

INCORPORATION.—Lenhartsville is the second smallest borough in the county. It is situated along the Ontelaunee creek in the western end of Greenwich township, from which it was taken at the time of its incorporation in 1887. It embraces 48 dwellings, 2 hotels, 3 stores and a blacksmith shop, with a population of 140, the number having gradually decreased for the last twenty years. The hotels are supplied with superior running spring water.

The place was named after the Lenhart family which settled in the township at this point before the erection of the county. It has been known by this name for over a hundred years. The operation of several large grist-mills in the vicinity gave it prominence; and its situation on the "State Road" (which extends across the northern section of the county parallel with the Blue Mountains) contributed toward its importance as a business center.

FIRST TAXABLES OF BOROUGH.—The taxable residents of the borough at the time of its incorporation were as follows:

Daniel Adam	John B. Levan
Daniel Fenstermaker	Mrs. George Leiby
James S. Focht	Mrs. James Leiby
Mrs. Peter Fister	John Miller, Sr.
Malinda Greenawalt	Joseph Mattern
Samuel Gehret	J. William A. Mattern
George F. Huy	John Pfeiffer
Henry Hardinger	Benjamin Riegelman
Jonathan G. Hinkle	John K. Seaman
Frank Kramer	Moses Stein
Charles A. Leiby	William Waxwood
Allen B. Levan	Benjamin Weiss
Francis B. Levan	Wilson M. Werley
William B. Levan	Mrs. Seth Ziegler
Jacob B. Levan	

Tenants

William Adam	Jacob Rhoads
Glancy Dry	Daniel Reidenaur
William Eberly	Daniel B. Seip
James Grayham	O. G. Yenser
Frank Hill	Lafayette Zettelmoyer
Benjamin Leiby	Allen Zettelmoyer
John Miller, Jr.	Charles D. Ziegler
John W. Reber	

Single Men

Clayton Adams	Irwin W. Leiby
George De Long	George W. Ziegler

LIST OF OFFICIALS.—The following lists comprise the names of the principal officials who have

served since the incorporation of the borough. Only one justice of the peace has been elected (though entitled to two as a district), owing to the smallness of the place:

CHIEF BURGESSES

George F. Huy	1887-91
Charles D. Ziegler	1891-92
James S. Focht	1892-95
Charles A. Leiby	1895-98; 1902-05; 1909-12
Daniel J. Seip	1898-1902
William V. Herring	1903-09

TOWN CLERKS

Oliver G. Yenser	1887-89
Wilson M. Werley	1889-91
George F. Huy	1891-94
J. Wm. A. Mattern	1894-1905; 1907-09
Dr. O. F. Kunkel	1903-07
Dr. L. R. Rothermel	1909-10

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

James S. Focht	1887-93
J. Wm. A. Mattern	1893-1910

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

<i>Chief Burgess</i>	Charles A. Leiby
<i>Town Council</i>	William F. Peters, President
	Albert Hein, Treasurer
	William Waxwood
	Benjamin Leiby
	Alfred Balthasar
	F. B. Levan
	Dr. L. R. Rothermel, Secretary
<i>School Board</i>	Dr. L. R. Rothermel, President
	J. William A. Mattern, Secretary
	Jacob Levan, Treasurer
	Glancy L. Dry
	Harvey A. Sarie
	Alfred F. Hein
<i>Justice of the Peace</i>	J. William A. Mattern
<i>Constable</i>	C. Clayton C. Adams
<i>Auditors</i>	George F. Huy
	Jacob Rhoad
	G. Frank Eberly
<i>Assessor</i>	Robert J. Peters
<i>Collector</i>	(Vacant)

POST-OFFICE.—The post-office was established in 1854, at the furnace store, east of the creek. When the borough was erected, it was removed to this place, and since then Glancy L. Dry and John W. Reber have been the postmasters.

BUSINESS.—F. B. Levan has been successfully and extensively engaged in the general store business for upward of twenty years. He is also operating a creamery and butcher shop.

A. F. Hein for several years has carried on a wheelwright shop and blacksmith shop. He is also engaged as a dealer in farming implements.

Stage lines were operated from Lenhartsville to Strausstown to the west and to Allentown to the northeast, for upward of twenty years until 1904, when, on account of the Rural Free Delivery, the former line was discontinued, and the latter was limited to Weisenburg.

The Maiden-creek charcoal furnace was erected in 1854 by George Merkel a short distance east of the village, and successfully operated for thirty years, the last proprietor having been Jacob K. Spang of Reading. When the Berks County rail-

road was constructed along the creek in 1874, the Lenhartsville station became a busy shipping point.

[Statistics relating to the borough will be found in Chapter IX.]

EDUCATION.—A school building was established upon the erection of the borough, and this has been occupied since for school purposes. But the number of pupils has been small, being now 33. There is no church in the place and no factory, the spirit of manufacturing enterprise never having been encouraged by the property holders.

The "Sons of America" (Camp No. 531) organized here in 1893, and they erected a fine hall for their meetings, costing \$1,400.

"BLUE ROCKS" is a point of interest within two miles northwest of the town. It comprises a deposit of large rocks, blue in appearance from exposure, which cover an area of thirty acres. The rumbling of hidden waters underneath is distinctly audible. The formation has the appearance of having been caused by a washout on the hillside many years ago, and is situated several hundred yards below the top of the hill.

BECHTELSTVILLE

INCORPORATION.—The borough of Bechtelsville was incorporated on Sept. 11, 1890, the boundary lines including 194 acres. The territory was taken from Washington township. It was named after the John S. Bechtel family which has been prominent in that immediate vicinity from the time of the first settlements before the erection of the county. It is situated along the Colebrookdale railroad, three miles beyond Boyertown. The construction of this railroad in 1869 was the direct cause of the formation of a considerable settlement at this point; and the erection of a large iron furnace here in 1875 also encouraged building operations.

FIRST TAXABLES.—The first taxables of the borough were as follows:

Elam Bechtel Est.	Orlando Haas
Mary Bechtel Est.	William Haas, Sr.
Eli Bechtel	Thomas Hoffman
David H. Bechtel	William F. Knerr
Oliver Brunner	Frank Minner
James Bechtel	Thomas R. Miller
Sarah Bechtel	Tobias Moyer
Jacob Bowman	Joseph H. Moyer
William Conrad	Jeremiah Moyer
John Conrad	Charles Moyer
Allen F. Deysher	Henry W. Miller
Jeremiah Dierolf	David Miller
Nathaniel Dengler	Jacob Moyer
Mathias Dotterer	Amelia Moyer
Sarah Deysher	Amanda Morey
Horace Fisher	Jacob B. Oberholtzer
Walter Fisher	Amos Oberholtzer
Ezra Frey	Lizzie Oberholtzer
Elizabeth Frehn	Henry F. Sheiry
Henry Geist	Henry H. Stauffer
William Groff	Charles E. Stangier
Henry S. Geist	Harri-son Schoenly
Henry S. Gilbert	Daniel Shollenberger
Joseph Heydt	John S. Stauffer
John Hoffman	Henry Young
Jacob F. Heydt	



Tenants

Ambrose Ackerman	Henry Kehl
David O. Bechtel	Daniel Kehler
Fremont Borneman	George Moser
William Bechtel	Henry Miller
Amos Conrad	Horace Miller
Nathaniel Erb	Samuel Mest
Allen Fretz	Joseph Morey
Horace Fisher	Jacob L. Reiff
James Fronheiser	John Reitenauer
Jacob Gottschalk	Augustus Reinhart
Reuben Glaes	Joseph Reitenauer
Oliver Hoffman	William Specht
Henry R. Herb	Frank Specht
Henry Houck	Anthony Sharp
Jacob Haas	Reuben Styer
J. K. Hinkel	Lewis Weller
Josiah Hunsberger	Irwin Yoder

Single Men

John Kehl	David Stangier
Samuel Kehl	Samuel Stauffer
Menno Oberholtzer	

In 1906, there were 82 dwellings in the place, and 147 taxables. The total assessed property amounted to \$132,700; and the money at interest, \$26,365.

LIST OF OFFICIALS.—The following persons filled the positions of chief burgess and justice of the peace:

CHIEF BURGESSES

Orlando Haas	1891-97
Irvin Yoder	1897-1900
Jacob B. Oberholtzer	1900-03
Guldin G. Yoder	1903-06
Jeremiah Dierolf	1906-09
Amos B. Oberholtzer	1909-12

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

M. H. Dotterer	1891-1907
H. C. Schoenly	1891-93
Frank H. Minner	1893-96
Franklin M. Glaes	1896-1903
William A. Henry	1903-13
Bernard L. Kutz	1907-12

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

<i>Chief Burgess,</i>	Amos B. Oberholtzer
<i>Town Council,</i>	Henry W. Miller, President
	George Bartholomew, Treasurer
	Orlando Haas
	Adam Hess
	Reuben Kramer
	Henry H. Stauffer
	Henry Shirey
	Peter Brumbach
<i>School Board,</i>	Irwin B. Kehs, Secretary
	Jacob F. Moyer, President
	Allen Erb, Secretary
	James Fronheiser, Treasurer
	William A. Henry
	Isaac Moyer
	George Bartholomew
<i>Justices of the Peace,</i>	William A. Henry
	Bernard Kutz
<i>Constable,</i>	William M. C. Grofe
<i>Auditors,</i>	Abraham Heydt
	Charles Hirsch
<i>Assessor,</i>	Jacob F. Moyer
<i>Collector,</i>	Horace B. Fisher

POST-OFFICE.—The post-office was established in 1852 by the name of Bechtelsville, evidencing that the place was so known at that time. David Latshaw has been postmaster since 1903. He succeeded Jacob L. Reiff.

BUSINESS.—In April, 1909, the borough contained the following:

Hotels	2	Tinsmith shop
Stores	2	Shoemaker shop
Hardware store		Coal yard
Liveries	2	Flour and feed store
Millinery store		Blacksmith shops
Saddlery		Painters & paper hangers
Barber shop		Tailor
Printing office		Restaurant
Butcher shop		Physician

The estimated population then was 500; dwelling-houses, 100.

Since the erection of the borough, the streets have been lighted at night by oil lamps set on posts.

Pumps are still used for water supply.

INDUSTRIES.—The oldest industrial plant at Bechtelsville is the three-story stone grist mill which was operated as such for upward of seventy years, having been started by Alfred Siesholtz. It is equipped with roller process machinery for the manufacture of flour. But for the last several years it has been engaged in chopping feed for the farmers of the vicinity. Previously it had been a prominent oil-mill for many years. It is now operated by *Abraham Heydt* (since 1905), with two hands.

Another chopping-mill is run at the southern end of the town by *Mahlon Reidenauer* (since 1901); which had previously been a grist-mill for many years. In connection with this mill, Mr. Reidenauer established a planing-mill in 1908, which he has been operating with four hands.

Near this mill, Henry Young started a creamery about 1885 and carried on business extensively for a number of years. It has been operated by *H. H. Stauffer* for about fifteen years.

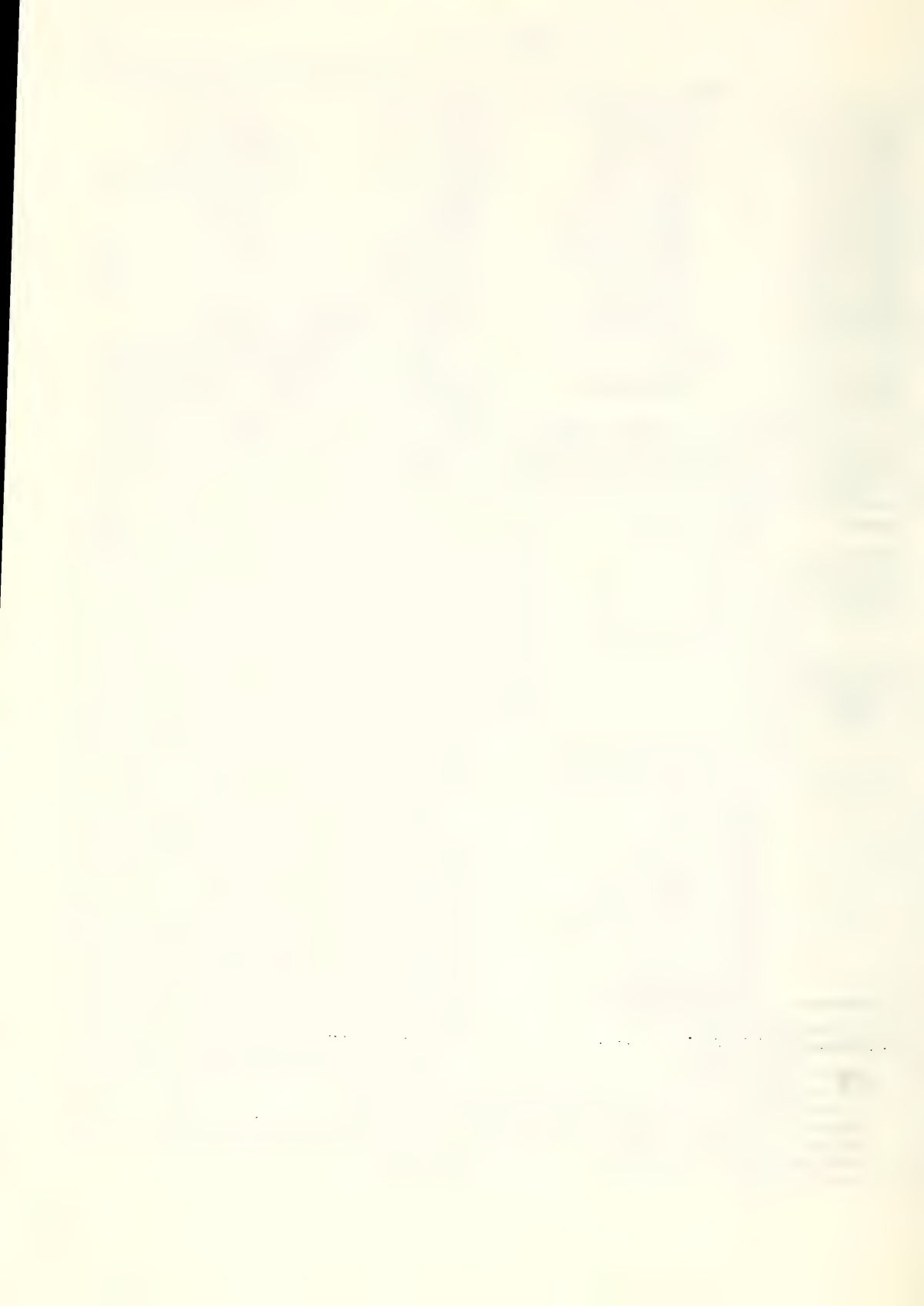
William Conrad engaged in the undertaking business about 1875, and several years afterward established a large cabinet-making shop, which he carried on extensively in the manufacture of furniture. He is still in the business, and also deals in furniture and household goods.

Fisher Brothers (Walter and Horace) have been engaged in manufacturing carriages at Bechtelsville since 1887. They employ five hands. A wheelwright shop is also carried on at this plant for heavy wagons and repairs.

Nathaniel G. Erb started a bakery here in 1886 and since then has developed a large trade which extends into the surrounding country for many miles. He manufactures and distributes daily about a thousand loaves of bread; also large quantities of cakes and pretzels. He employs nine hands and requires three delivery teams. During the summer season he manufactures many tons of ice-cream and candy for picnics.

Owen Hoffman has carried on a marble yard for upward of twenty years. He located at Bechtelsville in 1877.

Effinger Erb started a cigar factory in 1908 and employs two hands. He also manufactures chewing tobacco.



Kutz Knitting Mill.—In 1905 S. Jairus Kutz of Reading located at Bechtelsville and started the manufacture of men's and ladies' hosiery on the second floor of the tinsmith shop, but his business grew so rapidly that he was obliged to put up a building. In 1907 he erected a fine three-story cement block factory and equipped it with machinery. His two sons Calvin J. and Bernard L. are associated with him, and they are trading under the name of Kutz Knitting Mill. They employ from forty to fifty hands.

Dierolf Orchard.—Jeremiah Dierolf was engaged in the manufacture of pants at Bechtelsville for upward of fifteen years until 1905, when his hands left and entered the hosiery mill. He then directed his attention to the cultivation of fruit and berries on a tract of land adjoining the borough and he has been very successful. He planted upward of 2,500 trees—apple, peach and plum.

Crusher.—In 1875, a large blast furnace was erected here at a cost exceeding \$150,000, and it was operated for ten years by the Pottstown Iron Company and the Gabel Brothers from Pottstown. Some years afterward it was dismantled and torn down by the P. & R. R. Co. The large and valuable cinder bank induced the erection of a crusher plant by Jacob V. R. Hunter and William Kline, who operated it until 1904, when Mr. Kline became the sole owner, and in 1907 he sold it to the Ehret Slag Company. The estimated deposit of cinder there is 100,000 tons, superior for concrete work.

CHURCH AND SCHOOLS.—A fine, large, two-story brick church was erected in 1886 by members of the Lutheran and Reformed denominations, and services have been conducted since. The members support a flourishing Sunday-school. The Lutheran members number 150; the Reformed, 75.

Two schools are maintained in the borough. The scholars number 72. A one-story brick building was erected by the borough in 1890.

HALL.—The Patriotic Order Sons of America, Camp No. 324, erected a fine three-story cement-block building. The first and second floors are occupied for dwelling purposes; and the third floor is set apart as the Camp's Hall. An auxiliary camp meets there also—the Patriotic Order of Americans, No. 40, composed of women; it has upward of fifty members. The cost of the building was \$6,000.

MOUNT PENN

INCORPORATION.—Mount Penn was established as a borough out of a small portion of Lower Alsace township on Nov. 7, 1902. The boundary lines inclose 242 acres, 116 perches. It adjoins Reading on the southeast.

The place was known as "Dengler's" from 1841 to 1902, having been named after George Dengler, Esq., the first prominent citizen of that vicinity; who, in 1840, purchased the Keehn tavern

and fifty-six acres of land there and took possession in 1841. He conducted the tavern several times himself, altogether about ten years, but the premises were mostly rented until his decease in 1866. He served in the office of justice of the peace from 1855 to 1865, and was highly respected in the community. The tavern was an old-established stand in 1840, and had been a popular stopping place for teamsters on their way from upper sections of the county to Philadelphia with grain, etc., before the opening of the railroad in 1838.

After the East Reading Street Railway line was extended to Black Bear and to Stony Creek in 1890, more especially after the opening of Carsonia Park, dwelling-houses at this place began to increase rapidly. When the trolley line to Black Bear was extended to Birdsboro, the street cars to that place from Reading proceeded by way of Mount Penn.

In 1909, the borough included 140 dwellings; about 400 inhabitants; two churches (Lutheran and Reformed), two-story brick school building, two carriage factories, organ factory, paper-sack factory, coal yard, two hotels, four stores, and a restaurant; there were three painters, a large contractor, and a physician. Many of the houses are attractive, and one is particularly worthy of notice, John G. Speidel's, formerly Dr. D. B. D. Beaver's, erected by Edward S. Kremp, Esq.

The Aulenbach cemetery is situated in the western section; also the Antietam filtering beds of the Reading Water Works. The former was established in 1851; the latter in 1905.

In 1884, A. F. Reeser and Kendall Brothers laid out a town, including Dengler's, and named it "Woodvale." Many lots were sold, and a number of dwellings were erected, but the name was not adopted by the public.

A post-office, by the name of "Dengler's," was established in 1884, and this was continued until the borough was erected in 1902.

The streets are lighted by arc electric lights under contract with the Metropolitan Electric Company.

A hose company, with hook and ladder truck, chemical engine, and modern appliances, was organized in 1903, and it has eighty members. A town hall was erected in 1906.

Water Company.—In 1903, the Mt. Penn Suburban Water Company was organized and incorporated with a capital of \$12,000, for the purpose of supplying the citizens of Mt. Penn and vicinity with water for domestic uses and for protection against fire. The Adams farm, a mile east of Dengler's, was secured and there the company established a reservoir with a capacity of 600,000 gallons, and a large dam with a capacity of 3,000,000 gallons. Mains were then put down, in length about six miles. The patrons number 210. The organizers were Dr. M. L. Bertolette, Martin D. Hunter, Louis Kraemer, E. D. Nein, and H. S.

Hinnershitz—the first having been the president of the company, and the second the secretary and treasurer, since its organization. Pipe lines are extended to Stony Creek and Black Bear. The sanitary conditions are superior and highly commended by the State authorities.

FIRST TAXABLES.—The names of the first taxables of the borough were as follows:

Daniel N. Albright	Daniel B. Keehn
Marguerite Albright	Peter B. Keehn
William H. Albright	John B. Keehn
John D. Barth	Emily D. W. Kline
Andrew Bernhart Est.	William O. Leinbach
Henry E. Barth	Percival Leinbach
Elizabeth M. Brown	George A. Levan
James D. Badv	Henry S. Lutz
Catharine Bertolet	Philip Louman
Dr. M. L. Bertolette	James Longacre
Julia L. Brown	John T. Miller
Dr. Beaver	Irvin Manwiller
John H. Clark	J. H. Mohn
David D. Dundore	David Nein
Howard Deysher	Jonathan Nein
Emma A. Endlich	Elmer E. Palm
Henry C. Esterly	Adam Palm
John S. Esterly	Daniel Q. Reider
John R. Folk	Samuel Steiger
Herman Fisher	Charles R. Seyfert
Annie Griesemer	Mrs. Solomon Stoner
Elizabeth Glasser	Adam Schlegel
H. S. Hinnershitz	Charles Schlegel
Gregory Heine	Amos Schlegel
George B. Hartman	Mrs. Ellen Trout
Christian Hartman	James Texter
George C. Hartline	John Zechman
L. W. Hinnershitz	Joseph Zuber

Tenants

Loyal Burkholder	Charles M. Kline
Charles Broodman	Frank E. Kauffman
Wesley M. Burd	Edward Kiebach
A. Mason Bright	Harry Kemp
George T. Brown	Harvey Keehn
Amos Boyer	John Lindemuth
John W. Barth	Levi Lessig
Christian Conz	Reuben Moyer
Sarah A. Canfel	Charles Miller
Joseph Davis	James J. Madeira
Jacob Esterly	Samuel Nein
J. W. Eyrych	Milford Nein
Michael Eyrych	Daniel R. Quinter
George Fox	Charles B. Prutzman
Jacob Folk	Francis B. Palm
William O. Fry	Charles H. Ruppert
Daniel D. Gehras	George W. Russel
Peter Glasser	John Rudy
Valentine Graeff	Benjamin E. Rake
Howard E. Gerhard	Mrs. Sarah S. Reider
Edward Howard	Ira J. J. Reber
Thomas Hartman	John J. Scarlet
William Homan	John Sutters
Jacob Hilbert	Alvah O. Schaeffer
William Hassen	Boyd W. Von Neida
James H. Harner	G. W. Wagner
J. F. M. Koch	Thomas Weidner
Charles A. Keehn	Edward Yergey
Charles Keffer	Charles Youse

Single Men

Louis Bernhart	Frank Clark
Harry Barth	Jacob B. Esterly
Harry Bitzer	Harry S. Esterly
Charles Barth	George S. Esterly
Harvey Bernhart	James Finerfrock

Charles W. Hinnershitz
William P. Hilbert
Jacob L. Ketterer
Charles O. Levan
Blasius Leightham
Charles H. Longacre
Howard Longacre

George Irvin Longacre
Samuel Nein
Wilson Nein
John Schlegel
Albert Schlegel
Morris Trout
Samuel Texter

FIRST OFFICIALS.—The first officials were elected in February, 1903, and their names were as follows:

Chief Burgess, George C. Hartline
Town Council, John Clark, (3 years)
D. D. Nein (3 years)
Dr. M. L. Bertolette (3 years)
W. O. Leinbach (2 years)
G. A. Levan (2 years)
David D. Dundore (1 year)
J. D. Brady (1 year)
Auditor, I. N. Manwiller
Tax Collector, John R. Folk
School Director, E. W. Hinnershitz (3 years)
Elmer E. Palm (3 years)
John G. Esterly (2 years)
George C. Hartline (2 years)
Samuel Reidsnyder (1 year)
David D. Dundore (1 year)
Judge of Election, Milford Nein
Inspectors, Samuel Nein, Sr.
Peter B. Keehn

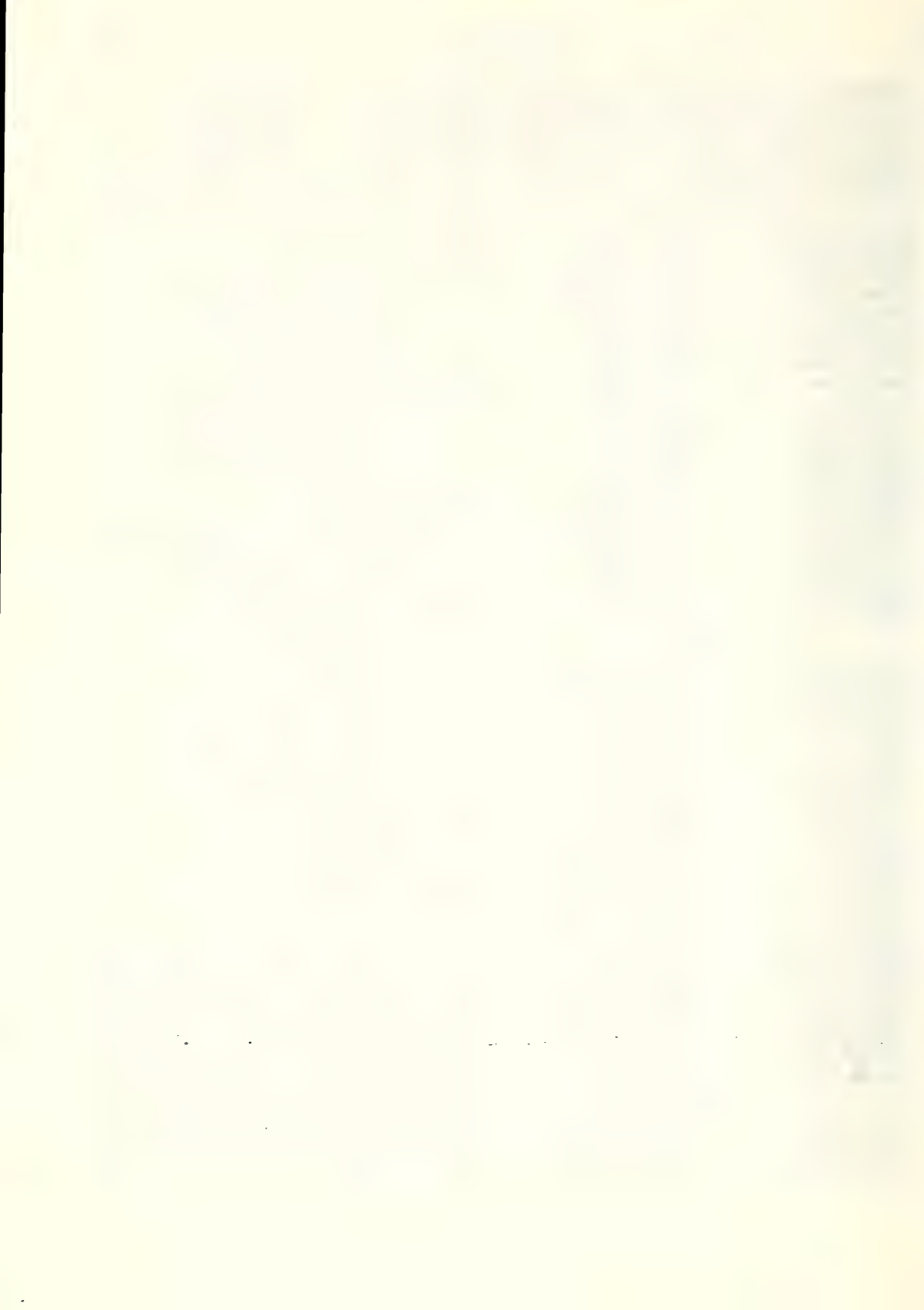
In 1906, H. S. Hinnershitz was elected as the second chief burgess for a term of three years.

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

Chief Burgess, George L. Dengler
Town Council, Irvin N. Manwiller
George Hartman
Henry Barth
Henry Esterly
Ira Reber
William Albright
William Leinbach
Town Clerk, George C. Hartline
School Directors, H. S. Beiteman, President
George C. Hartline, Secretary
John Keehn
Mason A. Bright
Edward G. Christian
Albert R. Schlegel
Auditors, Joseph B. Gauter
W. Hinnershitz
R. Tomlinson
Assessor, John Leedom
Tax Collector, John Folk
Justice of the Peace, George C. Hartline
Constable, Harry Neff

INDUSTRIES

Carriage Factory.—The first industry at this place was the carriage factory of Joseph Albright. He had been engaged in carriage-making at Kutztown and Pottsville for some years and removed to Dengler's about 1867, where he continued in the business until 1886, when his sons William and Daniel succeeded him. After being together for a year, William retired and he then worked at different places as a journeyman coach-maker for several years, when he returned to Dengler's. His father dying then, William became the owner of the property, and he has since carried on the busi-



ness, manufacturing carriages and light business wagons and making a specialty of rubber tiring. When he took the old place, his brother Daniel established a carriage factory on the opposite side of the street, and he too has been engaged in the business until the present time.

Organ Factory.—Samuel Bohler was engaged in manufacturing pipe-organs at Reading from 1850 to 1890. Elmer Palm learned organ-building under Bohler and continued with him until his death when he established a factory at Dengler's, and here he has been engaged in the business until the present time, manufacturing organs according to orders received, for private dwellings and for churches. His trade is confined almost entirely to Pennsylvania. He employs from six to ten hands.

Paper Bag Factory.—Wellington Hinnershitz started the manufacture of paper flour-sacks at Mt. Penn in 1904 and has continued until the present time.

Nein Coal Yard.—In 1887, Augustus H. Wentzel and D. D. Nein established a large coal yard and a flour, feed and grain business. After conducting them for two years Wentzel retired and Mr. Nein's brother Joseph D. took his place. Since then the business has been carried on by them in a successful manner under the name of Nein Brothers.

General Store.—Irvin N. Manwiller established a general store at the place in 1893 and has continued in business there until the present time.

Building Contractor.—Charles Schlegel located here in 1903, in the business of erecting houses, and has been successfully engaged until now, employing upward of thirty hands.

CHURCHES.—In 1885, the Trinity Lutheran Congregation of Reading erected a one-story frame chapel at Dengler's, which was called "Faith," and church and Sunday-school services have been conducted in it until now.

In 1897, many adherents of the Reformed denomination (about thirty in number), who resided at and near Dengler's, organized a congregation and erected a fine one-story brick church; and since then they have held regular services.

SCHOOL.—The school board of Lower Alsace township erected a fine, two-story brick school building at Dengler's in 1898, and when the borough was established in 1902 it became the property of the borough. In 1906 an addition was made to the building. It has three graded schools and 130 scholars.

STONY CREEK is a flourishing village which adjoins Mount Penn on the east. It took its name from the Stony Creek Mills, which were established there in 1864. In April, 1909, it contained fifty single houses and fifteen double houses, three stores, wheelwright shop, blacksmith shop, cider-mill, grist-mill, broom factory, barber shop, and the Kraemer Woolen Mills; also a superior two-story brick school building (erected in 1905),

hotel, bowling-alley, and a hose company for protection against fire. A beautiful stone chapel has been maintained since 1900 for Sunday-school purposes. The place is supplied with water by the Mt. Penn Suburban Water Company, the pipe having been laid in 1908. It is the eastern terminus of the East Reading street railway, situated a short distance from Carsonia Park. Many years ago, the Burkhardt Forge was carried on along the creek near-by; and afterward, the Feger Paper Mill. The Antietam Lake, of the Reading Waterworks, whose capacity exceeds 100,000,000 gallons, is situated half a mile to the north. The growth and improvement of the place are attributable to the influence of the woolen mills. The estimated population is 400.

WOMELSDORF

The borough of Womelsdorf is situated in the western section of the county, about a mile from the line of Lebanon county. The town was laid out by John Womelsdorf in 1762 and from him it takes its name. In that year the first house was erected by Jacob Seltzer; which afterward came to be occupied as a tavern and it has continued as such until the present time. It is the oldest tavern in the county. Whilst President Washington was on his way through Berks county to Carlisle, in 1794, he stayed over night at this tavern. The town-plan comprised seventy-five lots. The place was then called Middletown, because it was situated midway between Reading and Lebanon, and it was known by this name for upward of fifty years.

The following list comprises the taxable inhabitants in 1790:

Wm. Bergenhoff
Christian Bricken
Imhoff Benedict
John Bonawitz
George Bodle
Jacob Egle
John Fleisher
John German
Daniel Graeff
Henry Hersh
John Henry
Christian Miller
Elizabeth Newnan

Jacob Pleini
George Rapp
John Rose
George Seidle
Conrad Stouch
John Smith
Jacob Seltzer
Weyrich Seltzer
Maria Sherman
Nichola Saladin
Andrew Saladin
Michael Wolford

INCORPORATION.—The town was incorporated into a borough in 1833, by an Act of Assembly, and the taxables assessed that year were as follows:

Adam Anspach
George Anspach
William Arnold Est.
John Arnold
Jacob Arnold Est.
Abraham Arnold
George Brownwell
Lot Benson
Benjamin Bressler
Joseph D. Biles
Magdalena Brownwell
John Bennethum
David Bennethum
Michael Bennethum
James Bryan

Geo. Brownwell (of John)
Daniel Claus
Conrad Claus
Hannah Clark
George Conrad
Henry Cornwell
Thomas Cox
Elizabeth Deppen
Emanuel Deininger
Isaac Deppen
Daniel Diehl
Samuel Dechert
Elizabeth Dreon (Tryon)
Peter Eckert
John Ermentrout

Samuel Ermentrout	George Parson
Mrs. George Ege (widow)	William Price
Abraham Fisher	Lewis Richard
George Fry	Joseph Reutter
Henry Fidler	Samuel Reitsnyder
Adam Fidler	John Rees
William Gries, M. D.	George Redman
Abraham Guldin	Casper Reed
John Goodman	Henry Reed
John German	John Reber
Benjamin German	Frederick Shulze
Mary German	Conrad Stouch
William Hendel	William Seivert
John Haak	Michael Seltzer
William Hoff	Peter Stahl
Catharine Heffly	Catharine Seltzer
Widow Hirsh	John Sallade
John Horn	Christian Seivert
Thomas Horn	Philip Swalm
Frederick Herman	John Smith, Jr.
Jacob Ilger	Walker Steven
Conrad Jauch	Daniel Smith
Leonard Illick	George Sallade
George Keiser	Andrew Stouch
Adam Kalbach	Isaac Stouch
Henry Kendall	John Simon
Adam Kantner	Daniel Snyder
Valentine Kantner	John Smith, Sr.
Esther Krist	Jacob Sallade
Peter Lousdorf	George Seltzer
Jonathan Loas	Leonard Seltzer
Peter Leininger	George Sea
William Laucks	Samuel Shulze
Phillip Lippel	John Schoener
Daniel Leininger	Peter Sholl
John Levingood	Henry Shaner
Peter Levingood	John Swahn
Jacob Leshner	John Sell
Henry Moyer	John Smith, Est.
Valentine Miller	William Sallade
George Miller, Jr.	John Schoener
Jacob Miller	Solomon Sea
Jacob Moyer (Inkpr)	John B. Smith
George Martin	Jacob Shartel
Jacob McCally	George Von Neida
Francis Moore	John Von Neida Est.
John Mountz	John Vanderslice, Esq.
Jonathan Mover	Peter Womelsdorf
John Moyer	Godfrey Wiegman
Michael Nunemacher	William Witmyer
Elizabeth Oswalt	Solomon Weiser
Samuel Petry	George Wiegman
William Petry	Daniel Womelsdorf
Michael Petry	Adam Weber
Samuel Parson	John Yost
William Post	

Single Freeman

John Aulenbach	John Price
Daniel Brady	Isaac Reber
William Fisher	Samuel Stahl
Daniel Fidler	Benjamin Seltzer
John Fidler	Samuel Seltzer
Henry Kendall	Hamilton Stouch
Adam Kantner	Henry Vanderslice
Adam Kantner (of Val.)	William Vanderslice
Reuben Long	Aaron Weiser
Michael Nunemacher	Jabetz Weiser
Isaac Petree	

OFFICIALS.—The following persons have filled the positions of chief burgess, town clerk and justice of the peace from the incorporation of the borough until now.

CHIEF BURGESSES

Lewis Richards	1833
----------------	------

John Vanderslice	1834-38
Peter Womelsdorf	1839-43
Henry Kendall	1844-45
George Von Neida	1846
John Miller	1847-50
James Moore	1851-52; 1874
William Bennethum	1853
Joseph Smith	1854
Henry Brinkley	1855; 1860
J. A. Claus	1856
William Anderson	1857
Martin Manderbach	1858-59
Henry H. Manderbach	1861
John G. Keiser	1862
William Smith	1863
E. Penn Smith	1864-65; 1869
William G. Moore	1866; 1868
Isaac Y. Kintzer	1867
B. Frank Shortell	1870-71; 1879
John A. Matthew	1872
Charles B. Fisher	1873
Michael Kolbach	1875
Jacob A. Wolf	1876
Samuel Mowry	1877
George K. Valentine	1878
Franklin S. Haak	1880-81; 1886-87
Frederick A. Fidler	1882
Simon P. Moyer	1883
Samuel Kurtz	1884
John F. Petree	1885
John W. Petree, Jr.	1888-89
Henry Eberly	1890
Thomas L. Reed	1891-94
John M. Smith	1894-97
C. Lewis Kintzer	1897-1900
Franklin Kreitzer	1900
Daniel Bobb	1901-03
Charles J. Good	1903-06
Harry D. Noll	1906-09
Dr. Horace F. Livingood	1909-12

TOWN CLERKS

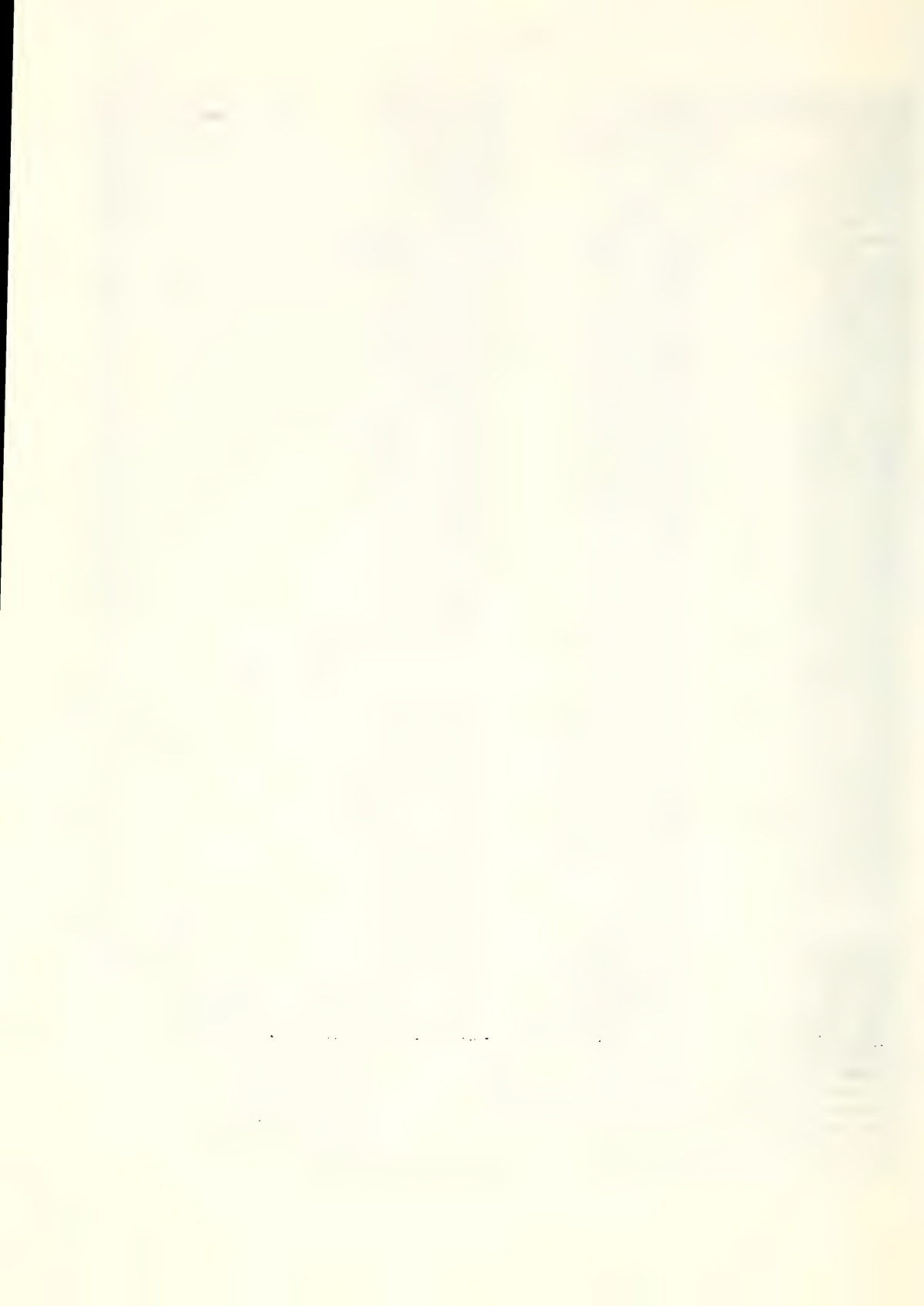
Francis Wessels	1834-43
David Steach	1844-65
Franklin Zerby	1866
Wm. M. Sallade	1867-69; 1872
Isaac Y. Kintzer	1870-71; 1873-56; 1888-89
John M. Smith	1887
Thomas E. Haak	1890-1901
William W. Lengel	1902-10

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

William F. Duncan	1829
Frederick Foltz	1829
David Steach	1846-71
Isaac Womelsdorf	1850-76
Isaac Y. Kintzer	1871-86
James Moore	1876-81
John M. Smith	1881-89
Charles B. Kintzer	1886-96; 1899-1901
John H. Kintzer	1889-94
Thomas E. Haak	1894-99; 1909-14
John J. Sallade	1896-1911
Jacob H. Mays	1904-09

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

Chief Burgess,	Dr. Horace F. Livingood
Town Council,	Samuel H. Illig, President
	Howard M. Haier
	Stephen Kintzer
	Wilson Dundore
	Jefferson T. Good
	I. C. Christman
	Samuel Hoffa
	W. W. Lengel, Clerk
Assessor,	Adam Lengel
Collector,	George Bright



Justices of the Peace, John J. Sallade

Thomas E. Haak

Constable, Jacob Kintzer

School Board, Charles P. Kreitzer

Calvin Christman, Secretary

Rev. Edwin Leinbach, Treasurer

John I. Fidler

Thomas Wilhelm

William Moore

POST-OFFICE.—A post-office was established here in 1807. The postmaster since 1897 has been Wallace W. Oberly. Previous postmasters were Charles Petree, Cyrus Oberly, George Miller, Isaac Miller and William W. Petree.

INDUSTRY.—Besides the usual vocations incident to a country town, some of the inhabitants were engaged in the making of wool hats from the beginning of the place, for nearly an hundred years. A tannery was operated for a longer time, and a gun factory was a successful enterprise for many years. The product was shipped by teams to Reading and Philadelphia. About the time of the opening of the Lebanon Valley railroad in 1857, the manufacture of these articles was gradually discontinued and the extensive manufacture of cigars was begun, though these had also been made here and in the vicinity for a while in limited quantities. Unfortunately for the borough, the route of the railroad was selected a mile to the south because of an alleged indifference of certain capitalists at Womelsdorf to encourage the enterprise by subscribing for the stock; hence industrial shops were not developed from that time for about forty years. The articles now produced which are worthy of special mention are cigars, cigar-boxes and hosiery.

Cigars.—A. S. Valentine began the manufacture of cigars in a modest way in 1852, and within thirty years he had become one of the largest manufacturers in the county with trading relations extending throughout the Middle and Western States. He died in 1899. His son, George, succeeded him; and he has kept up the business in a very successful manner until the present time. He also operates a large plant at Philadelphia. In 1900, a grandson, Roy Valentine, became associated in the business with his father, retaining the old name of A. S. Valentine & Son; hands employed, from 125 to 150.

Henry F. Fidler started in 1880 and continued until 1902, when he retired from the business, then transferring it to his sons, Harry I. and Edgar G., and his nephew, John I., who have been trading since under the name of H. F. Fidler & Co. They employ 75 hands and manufacture annually three million cigars.

In 1891 Henry D. Hackman began making cigars in limited quantities. In 1906 he employed from 40 to 50 hands and produced over 1,500,000 cigars, all hand-made, Havana filled; which were disposed of at retail in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey. His several brands are very popular.

Other manufacturers who have started business more recently are George Moyer, Christman Brothers, E. A. Schenk, Claude Taylor, and Charles M. Petree.

Cigar-boxes.—In 1890, M. S. Weidman started a cigar-box factory with 4 hands and produced 500 boxes weekly. In 1892, S. P. Moyer became a partner and he continued in the firm until 1905, when Mr. Weidman's brother took his place and they have since been trading as Weidman Brothers. In 1906 they employed 30 hands and produced weekly 10,000 boxes. In 1905, they established an additional factory at Sinking Spring, with 15 hands, and a weekly capacity of 5,000 boxes.

Hosiery.—In 1900 Darius H. Hiester and John D. Horst began the manufacture of hosiery. In 1906, they employed 25 hands and produced daily 115 dozen, which they shipped directly from the factory to all parts of the country upon orders received through their office in New York City. In 1907, Wilson Dundore and William Dundore became the owners and have since carried on the business under the name of Dundore & Dundore.

J. J. J. Moyer carried on this business for upward of twenty years until his death, in March, 1909, when he was succeeded by his son-in-law, Howard V. Fidler.

Creamery.—Frank N. Moyer, of New Berlinville, established a creamery in the eastern part of Womelsdorf about 1890, and it has been carried on since by different owners; since 1902 by Wilson Degler. Three hands are employed.

General Business.—In April, 1909, the following business places were carried on at Womelsdorf:

General stores	4	Blacksmith shops	3
Hardware store	1	Printing office	1
Flour and feed store.....	1	Ice houses	2
Leather store	1	Hotels	4
Agricultural implement		Restaurant	1
store	1	Printing office	1
Liquor stores	2	Barber shops	3
Wheelwright shops	2		

BANK.—In 1903, a bank was established in the place with a capital of \$50,000, under the name of Womelsdorf Union Bank (State). The president from the start has been John M. Schonour. A superior and attractive building was erected as the place for the transaction of its business, including a fire-proof and burglar-proof vault. In November, 1908, the resources were \$405,985; the deposits, \$316,598; the surplus, \$35,159.

PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

Turnpike.—The first public enterprise here was the construction of the Berks and Dauphin turnpike through the town in 1817; and this has been maintained until now.

Canal.—The next was the extension of the Union canal along the Tulpehocken creek about a mile north of the town in 1828; and this was carried on successfully for forty years, when its traffic began to decline on account of the Lebanon Valley railroad, which was constructed in 1857 through Heidelberg township a mile south of the town.

Trolley Line.—A trolley line of street railway was supplied in 1894, having been constructed along the turnpike from Reading. Upon its completion

the passenger traffic was almost wholly transferred to it from the railroad on account of the inconvenience in reaching the railroad station. A car-barn was established at the western end of the borough.

Water Supply.—A water company was organized and incorporated in 1895. The water was at first secured from the Manderbach spring, near the Orphans' Home, and pumped into a reservoir in the northern section of the town near the Union church. This supply was used several years, then a larger reservoir was established in the "gorge" of the South Mountain, east of Newmanstown; whence the town has since been supplied by gravity with flowing water taken from springs and runs on the mountain. Peter D. Wagner was president of the company until 1900, and he was succeeded by Martin D. Filbert.

This company began to supply the residents of Robesonia with water in 1904, and of Sheridan in 1908, mains having been extended to these places. On account of the elevation of the reservoir, the pressure is very strong.

Town-Hall.—In 1897 the borough erected a two-story brick town hall on the square, costing \$6,500. It was established mostly to accommodate the Volunteer Fire Company with a convenient building for its fire apparatus.

Fire Company.—A fire company was incorporated in 1897 and supplied with hose carriage, hook and ladder truck, and chemical engine. It has upward of fifty members. H. H. Hafer has since been the chief of the fire department. It is supported by voluntary contribution.

Electric Plant.—The borough established a superior electric plant in 1907, at an expense of \$30,000. It has been located on the old and historic Charming Forge property which is situated along the Tulpehocken creek, three miles northeast of the borough. It supplies the light for the streets, hotels, and many of the stores and dwellings. Its management by the town council is highly praiseworthy.

CHURCHES.—In 1792, members of the Lutheran and Reformed denominations united in erecting a stone church in the town. It was improved in 1805 by means of a lottery authorized by an Act of the Legislature; and it was rebuilt in 1867. It is still maintained as a union church, with a large regular attendance.

In 1834, members of the Presbyterian denomination established a church in the town, and the congregation was maintained for twenty years.

About the same time, certain Universalists erected a small church and encouraged services for a number of years, but the society was disbanded and the building was sold to the school board for educational purposes.

Some years before, adherents of the Evangelical denomination had effected an organization and erected a meeting-house. They conducted their

meetings in a successful manner until 1867, when they erected a more pretentious church and in this they have carried on services until the present time.

A Young Men's Christian Association was organized in May, 1907, and since then has held its meetings in the old Presbyterian Church building and been managed in a successful manner with an increasing membership. Henry D. Hackman has been its president and most active and influential member.

CEMETERIES.—In 1858, an association was formed for establishing a Union cemetery, a tract of three acres of land having been purchased, adjoining the Union church, and laid off in burial lots.

In 1883, a tract of three acres was purchased by the Zion's Reformed church and laid off into lots for burial purposes. Several costly monuments have been erected, including those to David Laucks and Dr. James C. Livingood. The remains of Hon. George Ege (a prominent iron manufacturer and county official for many years) were buried in this cemetery, and his grave is marked by a marble shaft.

SCHOOLS.—Education was encouraged from the beginning of the town. The first teacher was Baron Stiegel, the earliest manufacturer of iron in the western section of the county, he having directed his attention to teaching after his failure in business. Walker Stephen was the most prominent teacher and the longest in continuous service, having taught the children of the town for over sixty years, from 1800. Higher education was encouraged as early as 1828 by establishing an academy in the town. The institution became incorporated in 1834, and it was conducted successfully for thirty years.

In 1880, the borough erected a superior two-story brick high school on the site of the academy, at a cost of \$4,500. In 1906 there were six graded schools in the place, with over two hundred scholars.

BAND OF MUSIC.—In 1906, Calvin Reinhold organized a band of music which was called the Minnehaha Cornet Band and he has since been the leader, with upward of twenty members whom he has instructed.

WASHINGTON'S VISIT.—In 1794, President Washington, while on his way to Carlisle, in reference to the Whiskey Insurrection, stayed over night at Womelsdorf, and the extraordinary occasion was celebrated in a proper manner by the inhabitants. In the proceedings, Capt. Samuel Dewees took a prominent part on account of his personal acquaintance with the President, which he had made during his services in the Revolution. In a published biography of Captain Dewees (1844) this event and his connection with it are mentioned quite extensively.

BERNVILLE

Bernville was laid out as a town in 1819 by Thomas Umbenhauer, on land which he owned.

It was situated in Bern township on a public road from Reading, by way of the Bern Church, to the Blue Mountains. The projection of the Union canal near by, along the Tulpehocken creek, led to the selection of this locality as a convenient place for a town. It was named in 1820 after one of the principal towns of Switzerland, the native place of the founder's father.

In 1828, the canal was opened for traffic, and it was operated successfully for thirty years until the establishment of the Lebanon Valley railroad, and then its business began to decline rapidly. During this time, Bernville was a great shipping point and business of all kinds was in a flourishing condition; but the final abandonment of the canal caused a great change to take place, ending in depreciation of property and values, and the discontinuance of various successful enterprises.

The nearest railroad station is Robesonia, on the Lebanon Valley railroad, seven miles to the south.

A branch of the South Mountain railroad was projected from Strausstown to Reading by way of Bernville, and it was partly constructed along the North-kill through the western section of the borough, but it was not finished. Many persons of this vicinity responded liberally in subscriptions and credits, which became a total loss to them. The projected roadway is still visible.

PURCHASERS OF FIRST LOTS.—The following persons purchased lots of the town which were sold on March 7, 1820:

Philip Fillert	Nicholas Haas
John Umbenhauer	Samuel Filbert
Matthias Stoudt	John Heck, Jr.
Henry Waters	John Miesse
Peter Fillert	Jacob Wagner
Philip A. Good	John Wagner
Samuel Umbenhauer	Daniel Strause
Catharine Stoudt	John Aulenbach, Jr.
Joseph Seybert	John Heck, Sr.
Samuel Seybert	

OCCUPANTS OF FIRST DWELLING-HOUSES.—The first houses were occupied by:

Henry Witman	tin-smith
William Runkle	merchant
Abraham Reber	merchant
Andrew Greth	blacksmith
John Haag	wheelwright
Joseph Burkhart	chair-maker
Jacob Allenbach	hatter
Rev. Bover	minister
Peter Bennethum	tanner
Michael Parst	paper-box maker
Benj. L. Kerschner	coach-maker
Jacob Wagner	butcher
Joseph Kauffman	hatter
Catharine Stoudt	cake-baker
Lewis Porr	tailor
John Umbenhauer	weaver
William Umbenhauer	tavern-keeper
Daniel Klopp	tavern-keeper
John Daniel	tin-smith

INCORPORATION.—The town was advanced into a borough in 1851. The taxables at that time were as follows:

Abraham Andrews	Samuel W. Miller
John Boyer	John Miller
Henry Byerle	Jonathan Miller
Daniel Bentz	Dr. A. A. McDonough
Enoch Burkhart	Rev. George Minnig
Adam Bohn Est.	Samuel Madden
Maria Brossman	Catharine Mohn
Rebecca Brossman	Ludwig Porr
Enoch Bricker Est.	John Runkle
John Burkhart	Elijah Richardson
Joseph B. Conrad	Joseph Renno
Elizabeth Conrad	Runkle & Son
Daniel Deppen	William Runkle
Samuel K. Dundore	George Rink
Valentine Epler Est.	Jacob Strouse
Edward B. Filbert	Catharine Stoudt
Daniel R. Faust	Benjamin Seyfert
Solomon Faust	William Sheidy
William Greim	Rev. John C. Smith
John Heck	Adam Snyder
William Huber	Daniel Umbenhower
Jonas Hetrich	Thomas Umbenhower Est.
John Haag	John Umbenhower
Samuel Hicks	Henry Witman
Joseph Hertzler	John Wenrich
Henry Kleim	John Yeager
William Kalbach	Rev. Jacob Zehring
Benjamin Kershner	Lenhart Zerbe
Abraham Koenig	

Tenants

Jacob Adam	Jacob Riegel
John Daniel	John Rick
Lewis Fair	Jacob Rieser
John Greiner	John Resh
Andrew Heilman	John Rudy
Benjamin Himmelberger	Henry Stetler
John Harbach	Benjamin Speicher
Washington Hein	Jacob Werner
Albert Hein	Zadock Weber
John Heffelfinger	Joseph Wollinger
John Kintzel	John Witman
William Noll	John Walter
	Joshua Yeager

Single Men

Adam Bohn	Jonathan Snyder
Alfred Kerschner	Matthias Trompater
Jonathan Spengler	Jacob Werner

In 1906, the taxables numbered 134; and then the taxable property was assessed at \$123,690.

OFFICIALS.—The following lists comprise the names of the chief burgesses, town clerks and justices of the peace from 1851 to 1909:

CHIEF BURGESSES

E. B. Filbert	1851
A. R. Koenig	1852
William Runkle	1853
Henry Witman	1854
Abraham Andrews	1855
Joseph B. Conrad	1856; 1872; 1887-88
H. Harner	1857
Adam Stoudt	1858
Paul Wenrich	1859
Levi M. Gerhard	1860-61
D. D. Deppen	1862; 1868; 1889-90
John F. Burkhart	1863; 1886
A. M. Bright	1864
David R. Koenig	1865
Adam M. Dundore	1866; 1871
Jefferson Haag	1867
Abraham Witman	1869
F. M. Harbaugh	1870
Ephraim Witman	1873
Jacob S. Werner	1874



Charles F. Rentchler.....	1875
John A. Hiester.....	1876
Lewis P. Kerschner.....	1877; 1899
Levi Ludwig.....	1878-80; 1900-03
Levi Berger.....	1881
John S. Wenrich.....	1882-85
Edwin Umbenhauer.....	1891-93
Jonathan B. Miller.....	1894-96
Levi S. Bright.....	1897-98
Levi D. Kalbach.....	1903-06
Ephraim Miller.....	1906-09
Charles M. Richardson.....	1909-12

TOWN CLERKS

A. R. Koenig.....	1851
John S. Rick.....	1852-54
Harrison Harner.....	1855-56; 1858-63
Wm. H. Kintzle.....	1857
C. W. Hetrich.....	1864; 1866; 1868-70; 1874-76; 1881-96
Peter Sands.....	1865
L. W. Rentchler.....	1867
John H. Riegel.....	1871-73
H. S. Machemer.....	1877-80
Charles M. Harbach.....	1897
Charles P. Kalbach.....	1898-1900
H. C. Kerschner.....	1900-03
Geo. C. Kline.....	1903-08
P. F. Burkhardt.....	1908-10

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

John H. Riegel.....	1869-74
Simon Riegel.....	1872-77
Charles W. Hetrich.....	1874-99
Henry S. Machemer.....	1877-82
Benjamin Klahr.....	1882-97; 1898-1913
James F. Talley.....	1897-98
Samuel T. Bordner.....	1899-1908
S. P. Wilhelm.....	1908

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

<i>Chief Burgess,</i>	Charles M. Richardson
<i>Town Council,</i>	George Moll, President
	S. P. Wilhelm, Treasurer
	John Snyder
	John Haag
	Frank Stamm
	Willis Bright
	Paul F. Burkhardt, Secretary
<i>School Board,</i>	William Heffelfinger
	Dr. C. E. Schlöppig
	Thomas Kalbach
	James Burns
	Joeah Sheidy
	Howard Dietrich
<i>Justices of the Peace,</i>	Benjamin Klahr
	S. P. Wilhelm
<i>Constable,</i>	John Christ
<i>Auditors,</i>	Willis Bright
	Alfred Rentschler
	J. Paul Burkhardt
<i>Assessor,</i>	James Groff
<i>Collector,</i>	Levi Ludwig

INDUSTRIES.—Previous to 1819, this locality was entirely a farming community. Industrial establishments could not be encouraged because there were no facilities for shipping manufactured articles. The prospects of a canal stimulated enterprise, and then different industries were started, which were operated successfully for about forty years. Some were continued longer, but they too had to succumb. Tanning was introduced in 1820, and was actively carried on for six-

ty years, but it finally passed away in 1900. Several foundries were operated for a number of years. The last was removed in 1906, having been taken to Topton.

Creamery Business.—Charles M. Richardson (the burgess of Bernville) has been very successfully engaged in conducting creameries in different parts of Berks county for a number of years, having directed their affairs from Bernville as a central office under two firms with which he is connected, Ahrens & Richardson and Richardson Brothers, the former controlling eight creameries and the latter six. Those in the county are situated at Bernville, Strausstown, Mount Pleasant, Wernersville, Berne, Mertztown, Longswamp, Maxatawn, Topton, Schofer, Kutztown, Bowers, Lyons and Dryville. He is also connected with the Harford Dairy Company, at Harford, Pa., which controls eight creameries.

A creamery was erected by Jonathan B. Miller at Bernville in 1889 and operated by different parties. It has been carried on successfully since 1891 by Ahrens & Richardson.

Electric Light Plant.—An electric light plant was established by Harrison Kalbach of Lebanon in 1904 for supplying the borough with an improved light. It is managed by Dr. Charles P. Kalbach. The lights supplied number 300.

Bakeries.—Two bakeries have been established, one by J. B. Miller in 1891, carried on by Harry Sheetz; and the other in 1896 by J. D. Reeser, who after operating it ten years has succeeded by his brother Charles C. Reeser, who has carried it on since 1906 with increasing success.

Recently two additional industries were started: a shirt factory by Hoffman Brothers, and a hosiery mill by Hlgh & Son.

Stores.—Several stores in the place have been continued in a successful manner until now, notwithstanding adverse circumstances. The Miller store was started in 1847 by Samuel W. Miller. His son Jonathan B. succeeded him in 1878, after being a partner for fourteen years. It was then much enlarged and improved by the son and came to be recognized as one of the largest and best stocked country stores in Pennsylvania. James F. Talley became the purchaser in 1903 and he has carried it on since.

Albert F. Schock began the store business here in 1872. He established a larger stand on the opposite corner in 1884, with a costly stock, and continued until a few years before his death, in 1908.

John F. Burkhardt began the stove and tinsmith business in 1848, and he and his sons have kept it up successfully until now. Their trade extends throughout the surrounding townships.

There are three practicing physicians in the borough; three hotels; a drug store; and a saddlery.

PHYSICIANS.—A number of medical practitioners lived at Bernville who were very successful and won the respect and confidence of the sur-

rounding community for many miles: Dr. George Beyerle, Dr. Enoch Bricker, Dr. Daniel Deppen, Dr. A. A. McDonough, Dr. Philip R. Palm, Dr. George W. Ditzler, Dr. Wellington G. Beyerle, Dr. Darius D. Deppen, and Dr. John A. Brobst.

NATIONAL BANK.—A national bank was organized at Bernville in October, 1907, with a capital of \$25,000, with James F. Talley as president and Augustus M. Brown as cashier. In November, 1908, the total resources were \$122,462; individual deposits, \$57,590; time deposits, \$20,697; loans and discounts, \$77,585.

STAGE LINES.—Two daily stage lines maintain business intercourse with other places: From Reading by way of Bernville to Millersburg; and from Robesonia to Bernville (twice daily).

Two rural free deliveries have been established from Bernville.

CHURCHES.—The first church was established here by the Lutherans in 1745, and worship was continued by them alone until 1834, when the Reformed members were permitted to unite with them. The union character of the church was maintained until 1897, when they separated. The Lutherans erected a superior church at a cost of \$16,000; and the Reformed, with the co-operation of the New School Lutherans, also erected a similar church, in the same vicinity, on the opposite side of the public highway, at a cost of \$18,000.

The Evangelical Association also established a church here in 1852 and the limited membership was active for a number of years.

SCHOOLS.—Education received early encouragement. In 1878, a large two-story brick building was erected to take the place of two small buildings, and this is still used. Three schools are graded, with over seventy scholars.

SECRET SOCIETIES.—The first secret society established at Bernville was a lodge of Odd Fellows, No. 122, instituted Sept. 6, 1845, and the members have maintained the organization until the present time, the membership being 65. This was one of the first lodges of the order established in Berks county. They dedicated a hall in 1851. The assets of this body are \$4,000.

Another society here which has been quite successful and whose members have exerted considerable social and political influence in the community is Camp No. 113, Patriotic Order Sons of America, which was instituted in 1869, with 12 charter members. On Dec. 31, 1908, the members numbered 208, and the total assets of the camp were reported as \$10,270.

MILITARY ENCAMPMENT.—A large military encampment was held at Bernville on Aug. 27, 1841, comprising seventeen companies of militia, almost entirely from Berks county. Several companies were from Lebanon and Schuylkill counties. At that time, Berks county had altogether twenty-three companies, indicating that the majority of the local companies were present upon that occasion. The principal officer in command was Gen. Wil-

liam H. Keim. The grand review of all the companies in dress parade was witnessed by Gov. David R. Porter. Many persons were in attendance. The encampment was a great success.

CORNET BAND IN CIVIL WAR.—The Bernville Cornet Band, with Henry Grime as leader and thirteen musicians, was enlisted in the Civil war for nearly a year. It was mustered into the service Sept. 26, 1861, with the 26th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, as the regimental band, and continued with the regiment until it was mustered out Aug. 8, 1862, by reason of an Act of Congress which was passed to dispense with regimental bands.

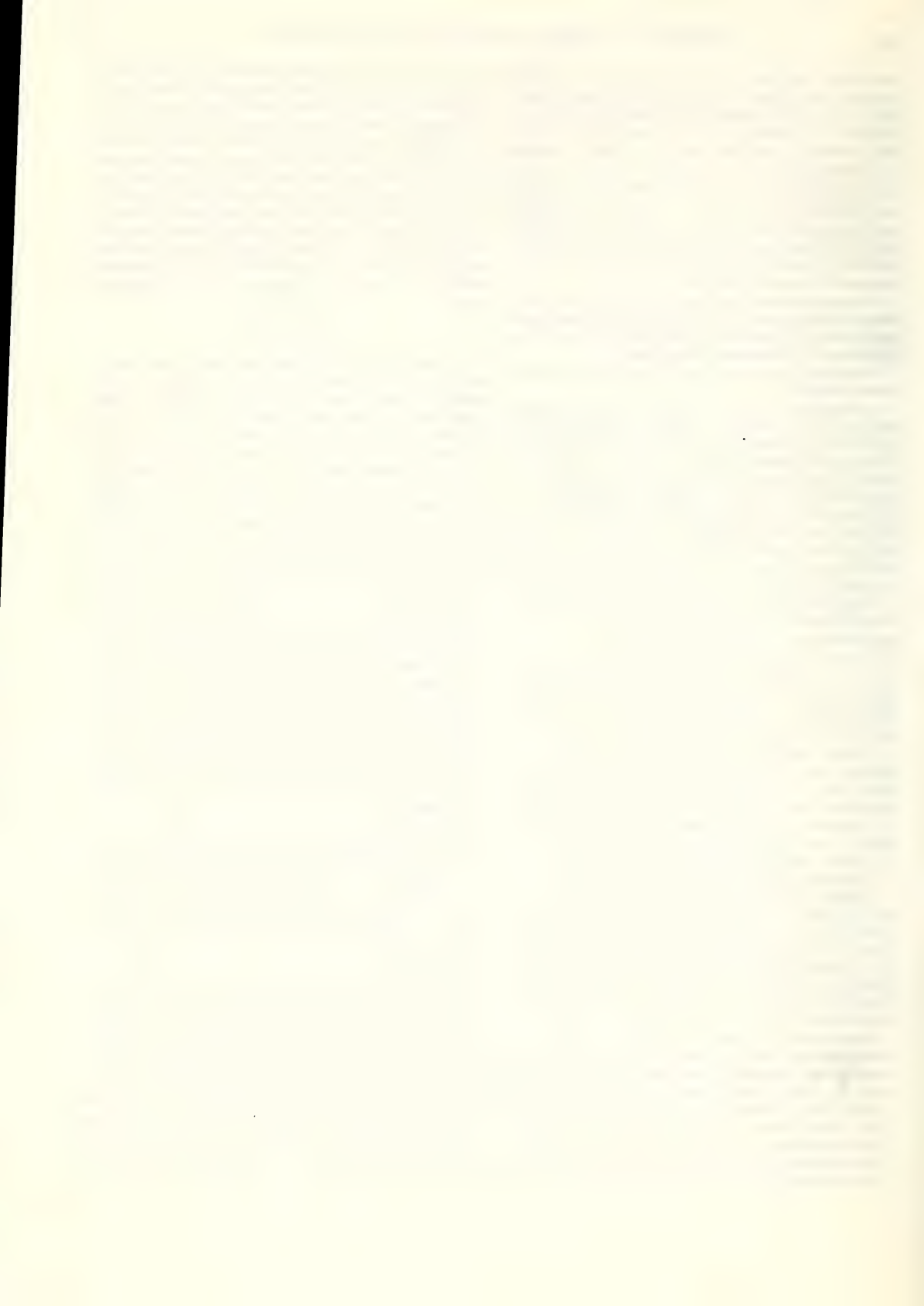
BIRDSBORO

Birdsboro is a flourishing borough in the county through the influence, encouragement and great success of the Brooke iron works. William Bird established at this place one of the first iron industries in the State. This was in 1740. It was a forge. He erected additional forges here; also a grist-mill and saw-mill. He took up several thousand acres of land in the vicinity south of the Schuylkill, stretching along Hay creek. Upon his decease, in 1762, he was succeeded by his son, Mark. Within twenty years, the son became one of the largest producers of iron in the country at that time. He was particularly prominent in the Revolution.

The development of the Bird industries caused the formation of a considerable settlement on both sides of the creek near its outlet into the river, and it naturally took the name of Birdsboro. At the time of the erection of the county in 1752, besides the township names for local districts, there were only two named towns. Reading and Birdsboro. After 1762, this town became more prominently known through the industrial energy of Mark Bird, and it has continued to be the most prominent center in the county next to Reading in respect to population and wealth from that time until now.

The Brooke family came to be identified with the place before 1800, and its greatest development is owing to the enterprise of Edward Brooke and George Brooke (sons of Matthew Brooke), between 1837 and 1878, when the former died. Since 1878, George Brooke has been at the head of the works and, as a matter of course, of the entire community.

INCORPORATION.—The town was incorporated as a borough in November, 1872, the limits including territory one mile square, with the northerly line along the Schuylkill river. It embraces sections which are known locally as Lincoln-town, Brooklyn, Texas, and Mexico. The streets were regularly surveyed and graded in 1883. A water department was then established, the water being supplied by the Brooke Iron Company from a large reservoir containing 37,000,000 gallons, constructed on Indian run two miles south of Birdsboro. In 1900 the Birdsboro Water Com-



pany was incorporated by the Brookes, which purchased the plant for the purpose of supplying the growing town with water. In 1906 the company enlarged the main pipe to sixteen inches. The small mains were also enlarged, thereby increasing the daily supply and improving the service to meet the demands of the community.

In 1885 the streets were first lighted by naphtha gas lamps; and in 1896 by electric lights, the plant being run by water power from the canal. A fire company was organized in 1883. A building for the apparatus was supplied by the borough in 1884, and enlarged in 1905. The upper story is occupied as a town hall. Two wards (East and West) were erected in 1889.

In 1906, the taxables numbered 969; the total assessed property amounted to \$1,223,264; and the money at interest, \$472,534. The buildings numbered 450; East ward, 280. and West ward, 170.

FIRST TAXABLES.—The following list embraces the first taxable inhabitants of the borough:

Enoch Alderman
James Brusstar
Dr. B. F. Bunn
George Brinly
Jeremiah Beard
John R. Bechtel
Edward Brooke
George Brooke
Zacharias Bishop
Augustus Britton
Henry Biedencup
Richard Bull
Reuben Beidler
Samuel Bland
Lewis R. Bland
Daniel Bower
John Bechtel
James Bradley
John Britton
Effenger Deugler
William DeWitt
Ferdinand Egelman
Henry A. Esterly
Reese Evans
Benjamin Grubb
Samuel Goheen
Charles Glass
Jacob Geiger
Joseph Hale
Michael Hoffman
Jacob R. Hunter
Henry Houck
Elisha B. Houck
Hannah Huyett
G. W. Harrison
Dr. Isaac B. Hallman
Caleb Harrison
Jacob E. Hook
Susan Hale
Adam Hoyer

William Hart
John E. Hook
Levi E. Hook
Henry E. Hook
Henry M. Houck
George W. Hains
William Hayflicker
Anna Kline
John Keinard
Joseph R. Kerst
George W. Knabb
James Liggett
David J. Lincoln
Michael Lacy
Ellen Luft
Petr Moll
Raymond Mohr
Daniel R. Miller
John T. Miller
Enos Morris
James Price
Cyrus Painter
Edward Parlamian
Isaac L. Pauling
Andrew Painter
John Rork
Cyrus Rhoads
Samuel Rhoads
Augustus Redcay
Moses Stubblebine
Hannah Steinmetz
Elijah Shirey
Augustus Schlichter
Daniel Spencer
David Vanneman
George Wert
Elizabeth Wood
George Yocum
Henry Yeager
John Yeager

Tenants

Robert Arnold
Daniel Aldenderfer
Ammon Albright
Henry Albright
Albert Borden
Reuben Bueidegam
John Bailey
John H. Brinley
Jeremiah Babb
William Bortz

Andrew Bivens
Joseph Bigley
John Boyer
John Brown
William Bishop
Thomas Conner
Edward Conner
Jacob Cramp
Charles Coughlen
Uriah Carson
Peter Detemple
William Davis
James Doaty
Jeremiah Dieter
John Deeds
John Davis
James Davis
William Davis, Jr.
Henry Davis
James Daub
David Dieftenderfer
Aaron Ellis
Lacy Epstein
Joseph H. Fisher
David Focht
John Fillman
Samuel Fair
Isaac Fair
Peter Frymoyer
William Fosnacht
Jacob Fry
John Geary
George Grubb
Samuel Goheen
John Goheen
Frederick Garrick
William Haggins
Rudolph Hayflicker
William Harbeson
Thomas Hesser
Owen Hamilton
John Hoffman, Sr.
John Hoffman, Jr.
Charles Hoyer
James Henry
Henry Henry
Daniel Hoyer
Amos Harner
Henry Haws
William D. Homan
James Homan
Charles Hoffman
Levi Hartman
Isaac Hahn
Charles Hoyer
Joseph M. Hale
Henry Hoffman
William Ives
John Incheliff
George Irej
David Johnson
Perry Jones
Samuel Kachel
Henry Kline
David Kline
Samuel Kring
John Kutz
Charles Lacy

John Lacy
Jacob Lichty
Henry Lichty
Joel Moore
Benjamin McCord
Edward Mohr
David McCord
Joseph McKim
William Morris
Adam McMullen
James H. Minker
Isaac Minker
Augustus Minker
Levi Mover
John Mock
John Mills
Caleb W. Mann
William March
John Nichols
William Nagel
George Painter
Lewis Phillips
Henry Quimby
Colbert Reamstein
David Rhoads
B. F. Rorke
Franklin Reed
Caleb R. Rhoads
Augustus Redge
Benjamin Roberts
George Rotz
Robert Rhoads
John Rhoads
Peter Rorke
Henry Reimert
George Siegfried
William Seidel
Daniel Spencer
Jacob Steinmetz
Aaron Sloyer
James Schule
Henderson Sample
William Stanley
John Siegfried
Edward Siegfried
William Siegfried
George Schirey
Ezra Smith
Isaac Steinruck
Samuel Shealer
J. S. Scheffey
Samuel Troop
James Tolbert
William Thompson
Charles Vanderslice
Hugh Vaneman
Owen Wolf
David Watts
Daniel Witman
John White
Jonathan Woomer
Oliver C. Wilson
Benjamin Weidner
George Wert
Francis M. Weaver
A. B. Young
John H. Yeager
Peter Zeller

Single Men

Edward F. Alderman
James Biedencup
Samuel Bland
Edward Bland
Charles Bland
Henry Bechtel
William Britton
George Britton
William Deugler
Lewis Delavan
George Engelman
Edward B. Evans

Levi Foelt	William March
Aaron Francis	Amos Miller
Lot B. Foreman	George Mohr
Samuel Green	John Phillips
Joseph Henderson	Benjamin F. Kork
Edward Hesser	Enoch Rhoads
Caleb Harrison, Jr.	John Shiner
Samuel M. Harrison	Jacob Steinmetz
William H. Harrison	Andrew Steinmetz
John Haws	Albert Shirey
Joseph Lacy	Samuel Westley
Peter Luft	David Waltz
George C. Mohr	Thomas White

<i>Constables,</i>	Samuel Kirby
	Mahlon Bomier
<i>Auditors,</i>	D. Harvey Whitman
	Daniel Mcindler
	George F. Bierman
<i>Assessors,</i>	John H. Beidler
	George W. Reeser
<i>Collector,</i>	Charles H. Milkr
<i>Board of Health,</i>	Frank P. Lytle, M. D., President
	Frank Arters, Secretary
	Charles H. Miller
	Henry H. Davis
	Harry Henderson
	John Murray

OFFICIALS.—The following chief burgesses, town clerks and justices of the peace have officiated from the beginning of the borough to the present time:

CHIEF BURGESSES

George W. Hain	1873
James Liggett	1874-75
George Beard	1876
D. K. Miller	1877
George W. Hook	1878
Dr. Henry B. Brusstar	1879-80
C. B. Beard	1881-82
Cyrus Painter	1883
Michael Hoffman	1884
Abner S. East	1885-89
Jacob M. Prutzman	1889-92
Isaac W. Miller	1892-93
David Kline	1893-94
Julius R. Langner*	1894-97
James A. Hoffman	1897-1900
Jacob Derr	1900-03
Oliver W. Eck	1903-06
John W. Davis	1906-09
Elmer E. Squibb	1909-12

* First elected for three years under Act of 1893.

TOWN CLERKS

Caleb K. Rhoads	1873-1903
Albert Fritz	1903-06
Howard Deam	1906-10

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Joseph R. Kerst	1873-88
James S. Brusstar	1873-90
Jeremiah Beard	1888-93
Jacob Prutzman	1890-1911
Oscar S. Hertzog	1893-98
Zacharias Bishop	1898-1903
Harry E. Hart	1903
James A. Hoffman*	1903-09
John Wells, Sr.	1909-14

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

<i>Chief Burgess,</i>	Elmer E. Squibb
<i>Town Council,</i>	Howard L. Hook, President
	Enos Rhoads, Treasurer
	Samuel C. Ward
	George Brooke, Jr.
	John W. Slipp
	W. Oliver Geiger
	Horace Fry
<i>School Board,</i>	Howard C. Deam, Clerk
	Robert F. Brooke, President
	Harry A. Beard, Secretary
	Jacob Shaner, Treasurer
	Lyman B. Umstead
	William K. Young
	Philip Brown

Justices of the Peace, Jacob M. Prutzman
James Hoffman

* Hart resigned shortly after receiving his commission; Hoffman was appointed in his stead and elected in 1901.

INDUSTRIES.—The industries at Birdsboro are numerous and together make the place the most prosperous town in the county next to Reading. The large and flourishing works of the E. & G. Brooke Company constitute the conspicuous industrial life of the place and its chief support.

William Bird established the first iron works here in 1740 and upon his decease in 1762 they passed to his son Mark, who operated them until his failure in 1788. They embraced several forges, rolling-mill, slitting-mill, nail-mill, grist and saw-mill, and about eight thousand acres of land, which lay to the east, south and west of the works for several miles. John Nixen, Cadwallader Morris, James Old, and James Wilson then became owners. John Louis Barde (the grandfather of Edward and George Brooke) had located here in 1788 and run the forges until 1796, when James Wilson sold them to him, including 2,200 acres of land, and upon his decease in 1799, Matthew Brooke (the father of Edward and George) became the owner.

Brooke Works.—In 1837, the two sons named purchased the plant, and they and their sons have been operating it successfully until now, covering a period of more than seventy continuous years and altogether in the family for more than a hundred years. In 1846 a charcoal furnace was erected by them along the creek about a mile to the south, to take the place of the "Hampton Forge"; in 1848, an enlarged rolling mill and nail factory; in 1852, an anthracite furnace (known as No. 1 and operated until recently when it was dismantled); in 1870, another anthracite furnace, No. 2, and in 1873 a third, No. 3, both of which are still in active operation. No. 2 affords constant employment to 100 hands, and No. 3, to 200 hands.

In 1878, Edward Brooke died, and the E. & G. Brooke Iron Company was organized, which became the owner of the extensive plant. The capacity has been gradually enlarged until the present time. Now the works produce annually 80,000 tons of pig iron, and 250,000 kegs of nails; and furnish employment to 775 men and boys. The company own altogether 250 dwelling-houses, which are occupied by its employees; and 150 are owned by employees, which evidences their industry and thrift.

In 1867, a foundry company was organized for manufacturing stoves and machine castings, but it was operated only several years when the Brookes purchased the large building. In 1885 the Penn-

sylvania Diamond Drill Company removed their plant from Pottsville to this building and engaged in the manufacture of diamond-drilling machinery, mining tools, and high-speed electric light engines. Owing to the increasing business a new stone building was erected in 1888, and equipped with the finest machinery for manufacturing machinery for rolling mills, blast furnaces and steel plants; and subsequently the old building was enlarged and changed to a cast-iron foundry for producing all kinds of grey-iron castings.

In 1902, the plant was destroyed by fire; but it was immediately rebuilt, with a modern equipment to produce the largest and most difficult castings. In 1903, a steel-casting branch was added. The total cost of this great industry exceeds \$1,000,000, and over four hundred hands are afforded constant employment. The Brookes became the owners, and they operated the plant under the name of the Birdsboro Steel Foundry & Machine Company.

It is estimated that 150 men from Reading are employed in the different works at Birdsboro, who travel by train to and fro daily.

Bird Mill.—Next to the iron works, the oldest industry in long-continued operation is the large stone grist-mill at the corner of Main and Mill streets, along Hay creek. It was first erected by William Bird about the time he started in the iron business, for the purpose of supplying flour and feed to his working-people and live stock. In 1844, the third building was put there. In 1879, this was remodeled with roller-process machinery, and flour was manufactured until 1898; since then it has been used as a chopping-mill, operated by George C. Riegner.

Shoe Factories.—In 1881, H. M. Willits started the manufacture of infants' shoes and has continued until the present time, employing upward of sixty hands; and in 1890 Albert H. Huyett and Charles S. Rhoads, trading as Huyett & Rhoads, started in the same business and have since employed from sixty to seventy-five hands.

Hosiery Mill.—William B. Byers and son Charles have been engaged in the manufacture of hosiery since 1904, employing twenty to thirty hands. They succeeded William Cavanaugh, who had carried on the factory for about ten years.

Creamery.—A creamery was started at Birdsboro about 1895 by Herbine & Kline and they operated it until March, 1909, when they sold it to Harry Koch, who has been operating it since, with his brother Roy Koch as manager.

Glove Factory.—A new enterprise for the manufacture of canvas gloves has been recently started by James Sponagle and his son.

Besides the industries named the borough contained in April, 1909, two bakeries, two tinsmith shops, eight grocery stores, one drug store, one bottling works, and four physicians.

BANK.—A national bank was organized and chartered in 1888 with a capital of \$50,000, which

has been managed very successfully. In 1901, a new and attractive building was erected for the transaction of its business. In November, 1908, the resources of the bank were \$358,896, with individual deposits \$177,844. Edward Brooke has been the president since its organization.

RAILROADS.—The Philadelphia & Reading railroad was constructed along the northerly bank of the Schuylkill river opposite Birdsboro in 1838; the Wilmington & Northern, through the central section of the town and thence southward along Hay creek, in 1874; the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley, also through the central section, extending east and west, in 1884; and a trolley line of electric railway was extended from the Black Bear Inn, via Seyfert and Gibraltar to Birdsboro, in 1904. They are all of great importance to the place, not only in respect to its industries but also to the convenience and encouragement of its inhabitants in visiting the county-seat for business, political, social and amusement purposes.

FIRE COMPANY.—In 1883, a fire company was organized at Birdsboro to afford the place protection against fire, named Friendship Fire Company No. 1. In 1884 the company erected a fine two-story engine-house, on a lot donated by George Brooke, in which to place its apparatus. It was enlarged in 1905. The equipment comprises two hose carriages with 1,000 feet of hose; and the membership numbers 120. The building includes all modern improvements, with four bath-rooms and pool-room for the convenience and entertainment of the members.

NEWSPAPERS.—The *Birdsboro Pioneer* was the first newspaper published at Birdsboro. It was an English weekly started by B. F. Fries on April 27, 1873, and he continued its publication until January, 1876, when he moved to Reading, changed the title to *Industrial Pioneer*, and continued its publication for several months.

The *Birdsboro Dispatch* was started by Rapp & Ryan in 1884 as an English weekly and they carried on its publication until Jan. 1, 1894, when Luther S. Mohr became the purchaser and he continued its publication until July 1, 1908, when he sold it to Harry E. Hart, who has issued it since in connection with *The Birdsboro Review*, which he had founded in 1893 and published successfully until the consolidation.

CHURCHES.—The first church in this locality was the Methodist Episcopal church, erected in 1839 near Mt. Airy, several miles to the east. The adherents of this denomination at Birdsboro attended services there and continued to do so until 1869, when a church was established in the town; and this has been maintained until now.

Members of the Protestant Episcopal Church attended services at Douglassville until 1853, when they secured a church at Birdsboro, which was named "St. Michael's." The building was remodeled in 1885 and made one of the most attractive

churches in the county. A fine rectory was added to the property in 1877; and also a library hall in 1884. The members of this denomination were mostly instrumental in laying out a cemetery a mile east of the town in 1870. A soldiers' monument was erected there in 1905, and dedicated with imposing ceremonies on July 4th.

The Evangelical Association erected a small church in 1874; the Lutherans, in 1877 (after maintaining an organization since 1873); and the Reformed, in 1880. Members of the last two denominations until then had generally attended church services either at the "Plover Church" to the south; or at the "Schwartzwald" to the north, or at the "St. John's" to the west.

In South Birdsboro, there are two brick church buildings, one erected by Grace United Brethren Association in 1886, and the other by Trinity Evangelical Association in 1904.

SCHOOLS.—The citizens of the community adopted the free school system in 1836. Previously there were pay schools, as elsewhere in the county.

An academy for higher education was established in 1855 by Prof. B. F. Boyer, a graduate of Yale College, who afterward practised law at Reading. The site is now included in the cemetery. It was carried on for about twenty years, and commonly known as the "Philomathean Academy." Educational matters have been much encouraged, as evidenced by the superior and costly school buildings in the town. A fine modern structure was erected in 1896. In 1906, there were eleven graded schools, with 459 scholars.

BANDS.—There are three popular bands of music at Birdsboro: The 46th Regiment Band (organized before the Civil War); the Birdsboro Band, with twenty performers; and the Orpheus Band, with twenty performers. The Birdsboro Drum Corps, with fifteen members, has also been a popular organization for a number of years.

Cornet Band in Civil War.—The Birdsboro Cornet Band was enlisted in the Civil war, and the musicians were R. J. Stauley, leader, Augustus Dewitt, John W. Deeds, Benneville Evans, Daniel Fix, Isaac Hoyer, George W. Horner, John H. Karch, William V. Light, Joseph Lacey, Augustus Minker, James H. Minker. It was mustered into service Aug. 27, 1861, for three years, as the regimental band of the 46th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. It accompanied the regiment in its movements but was mustered out of service Aug. 16, 1862, in pursuance of an order dispensing with regimental bands. It was recognized as a superior band. It has kept up an active organization until the present time, known as the 46th Regimental Band. The members number forty, all expert players on their respective instruments. Samuel Nagle has been the leader for the past twenty years. It is popular and participates in many public demonstrations.

LODGE HALL.—In 1904, the Knights of the Golden Eagle and the Odd Fellows jointly erected a

fine, large, three-story brick building to provide a hall for their meetings, and all the secret societies (including Sons of America, Mechanics, Macabees and Red Men) meet there; excepting the Freemasons, which meet in Brooke Hall. The Auditorium for public meetings and amusements was erected in 1892, and has been patronized liberally.

HOTELS.—There are three licensed hotels in the borough, Washington, Mansion, and St. Elmo. The first was rebuilt in 1904 by John Barbey of Reading to supply a modern hotel; the Reading Brewing Company secured the second also in 1904, and made costly improvements.

HOMES.—Birdsboro is remarkable for beautiful homes, more especially in the sections known locally as Lincoln-town and Brooklyn. The Brooke homes are palatial.

FIRST BRIDGE.—In 1778, a ford was reported at Jacob Huyett's farm along the Schuylkill river which was above the mouth of Hay creek, and then the water was eight inches in depth. This ford was used until 1845, when a covered wooden bridge was erected by a stock company and it was maintained as a toll-bridge until 1887, when it became a free county bridge. In 1850, it was swept away by the great freshet. It was immediately rebuilt and is still in daily use.

FLOOD OF 1902.—In February, 1902, there was a considerable fall of rain and on account of the rushing swollen waters in Hay creek the dam above the Brooke nail-mill was swept away and the lower section of Birdsboro along Main street was flooded to the depth of seven feet. After the waters had passed away, there was a deposit of fourteen inches of mud on the street and six inches in the dwellings.

CENTREPORT

INCORPORATION.—Centreport was incorporated as a borough in 1884, having been taken from Centre township, for the purpose of securing better school facilities. The borough, which is the smallest in the county, includes one school building, with 25 scholars; 38 dwellings; and a population of 150.

FIRST TAXABLES.—The taxable residents at the time of incorporation were as follows:

William B. Borkey	George P. Rentschler
Mary Blatt	David Stepp
William W. Haag	John H. Stepp
George W. B. Kauffman	Henry Stover
Daniel H. Kline	Benjamin Schlappig
William R. Kline	Esther Stoudt
Alfred A. Leshor	

Tenants

Joshua Bucks	David Myers
Elias Poltz	James H. Moll
James Dunkelberger	Daniel H. Noecker
William Dewese	John E. Pautsch
Samuel Heffner	Elias S. Rentschler
James A. Hoffman, M. D.	Morris Reeser
Samuel B. Kantner	John H. Soatz, M. D.
William Knauer	Elizabeth Seaman
James W. Klapp	Adam S. Williams
James T. Kline	Charles S. Yoder
Ephraim C. Meyer	



OFFICIALS.—The following have served as chief burgesses and justices of the peace since the incorporation of the borough:

CHIEF BURGESSES

Morris Reeser	1884-85
James Kauffman	1886
Darius E. Sheidy	1887; 1890-91
William Knauer	1888
M. G. Rentschler	1889
James Lengel	1892-97
Frank Dewees	1897-1900
James H. Moll	1900-03
Frank H. Borkey	1903-06
P. S. Ludwig	1906-09
James S. Miller	1909-12

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

James Klapp	1884-89
George W. B. Kauffman	1884-88
Darius E. Sheidy	1888-92
Michael S. Rentschler	1889-1909
J. M. Yerger	1892-93
M. D. Winter	1894-1909

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

Chief Burgess, James S. Miller

Town Council, H. E. F. Deitz, President

David Porter

John Bagenstose

William Reber

Levi Haag

M. S. Rentschler, Secretary

School Board, James S. Miller, President

M. D. Winter, Secretary

Thomas D. Moyer, Treasurer

William Rick

M. S. Rentschler

H. E. F. Deitz

Assessor, M. D. Winter

Collector, H. E. F. Deitz

Auditors, D. B. Rentschler

Thomas Moyer

William Reber

Justice of the Peace, M. S. Rentschler

Constable, T. D. Moyer

INDUSTRIES.—Before 1890 there were no industries at the place. The first was a creamery established by M. S. Rentschler, Esq., in 1891. It has been operated since 1900 by H. S. Frauenfelder, of Mohrsville, in connection with three other creameries.

In 1892, Jonathan G. Reber started the manufacture of light and heavy farm wagons at this place and he has continued until the present time, employing from ten to fifteen hands, with a capital of \$8,000. His wagons are sent to all parts of the county, being appreciated for their strength and durability.

The same year F. R. Hiester began the manufacture of cigars, moving here from Shartlesville, where he had been in the business from 1885. He and his son produced annually about 200,000, which were sold mostly in the coal regions of Pennsylvania. They discontinued in 1906.

In 1895, a knitting-mill was established by J. E. Pautsch, M. M. Kline and D. E. Noecker for

making ladies' and children's underwear. In 1901, Mr. Pautsch became the sole owner, and he operated the plant for five years in a successful manner, employing from eighteen to twenty-five hands, with an investment of \$10,000; then it was destroyed by fire, and Mr. Pautsch died shortly afterward.

In 1895, C. K. Miller opened a marble yard for supplying gravestones and marble work, and has continued it since. In that year M. D. Winter began the making of ice-cream and confectionery, enlarging his business in 1902 by the addition of a gasoline engine. His trade extends into the surrounding townships.

In 1900, Joseph D. Naftzinger engaged in the manufacture of kitchen furniture, continuing until now with three hands. The top floor of his factory building is used for lodge purposes. He also deals in furniture and carpets. He is the undertaker for this vicinity.

In 1902, William Boyer, began a small saddlery for the manufacture and repair of harness. A similar shop had been at the place for many years.

M. D. Winter started a shirt factory in 1908 with eighteen hands; and J. S. Balthaser an implement store in 1907 with five hands.

M. D. Winter has been the postmaster for sixteen years. The previous postmasters were J. E. Pautsch and William B. Borkey.

The enterprise of the place is commendable, considering its smallness and situation from the railway. [Statistics relating to the borough will be found in Chapter IX.]

About 1818, a public house, including a general store, was opened at this point by John Haag, and from this time forward it gradually became a center for the transaction of business. The store was separated from the tavern in 1857, and William Borkey was the first store-keeper. M. S. Rentschler's father carried on this store for many years. The son succeeded him in 1886, and has operated a large general store in a successful manner ever since.

In the erection of the borough, the tavern was excluded, though the premises adjoined the line. A post-office was established there in 1868. Curbstones were set along the gutters in 1895; and the streets came to be lighted in the night-time by large oil lamps set on posts. The nearest railroad point is at Shoemakersville about two miles to the east, but the station generally taken is Mohrsville, though farther distant, on account of the shorter distance to Reading.

PHYSICIANS.—The medical practitioners at this place have been Dr. William Palm, Dr. J. H. Spatz, Dr. C. G. Loose, Dr. James A. Hoffman, and Dr. J. G. Matternes.

BAND OF MUSIC.—A band of music was organized in the borough in 1906, with upward of fifteen members, who are instructed by Byron Miller, of Bernville.

WEST LEESPORT

When the Philadelphia & Reading railroad was being extended from Reading northward, Samuel Lee laid out a town along the Centre Turnpike in Maiden-creek township (now Ontelaunee) a short distance east of the Schuylkill river, nine miles from Reading, and named it "Leesport." But the railroad was constructed on the western side of the river, and the station was located at the point where the public road from Leesport into Bern township crossed the railroad. This station was named Leesport by the railroad company in 1842; and the name has been continued until the present time.

The business at the station encouraged the formation of a settlement at this place and in time it developed into an important and popular trading center. Samuel H. Lenhart was actively and successfully engaged in the general store business here for fifty years, taking great interest in the welfare and enrichment of the community; Leonard F. Schock was the railroad station agent from 1870 until his decease in 1908; and Isaac H. Rahn the justice of the peace from 1868 until his decease in 1907.

The Lenhart store was established by Abraham Herbein about 1850, and in 1858 he sold it to Mr. Lenhart. In 1890 Harry Lenhart became associated with his father, and they have since traded under the name of S. H. Lenhart & Son. Samuel Bell has been here as a rimsmith and stove dealer since 1862, having removed from Reading.

INCORPORATION.—In May, 1901, an application was made to the court of Quarter Sessions for the incorporation of the settlement west of the river into a borough, and the decree was made on Dec. 30, 1901, with the name West Leesport, because the place was situated west of the river. Immediately after a municipal organization was effected in March, 1902, local improvements began to be made in the streets and sidewalks and also in the appearance of the dwellings, showing the beneficial influence of an elevated political status.

In 1906, there were in the borough 100 dwellings; 185 taxables; 3 stores; 2 hotels; a church; a school (4 rooms); a wheelwright and a blacksmith shop; a knitting-mill; a physician; and a veterinary surgeon. The taxable property was assessed at \$138,385; money at interest, \$72,055; estimated population, 550.

FIRST TAXABLES.—Names of resident taxables of West Leesport, when first established as a borough in 1902:

Charles Adams
Samuel Bagenstoes
Bagenstoes & Loose
James G. Bear
Samuel Bell
William Bell
Wallace Blatt
Frank Brown
Edward Brobst
Jacob Bagenstose
Mary Bagenstose

Thomas R. Christ
Franklin Dundore
Samuel Z. Deck
William Epler Est.
Charles Fisher
Mary Fisher
Edward Gromis
Reuben Huff
Samson Hoyer
John Hans
George C. Hartman

George B. Hoyer
Samuel Haines
Abraham Kauffman
Charles Ketner
Isaac Keener
Francis Kaufman
S. H. Lenhart
Benjamin Lembach
Mrs. Esther Lengel
Reuben Loose
George B. Moser
William Mengel
Charles E. Mengel
Mrs. John Riley Est.
Mrs. Lovine Ruth
Levi Reeser
Isaac Rahn
D. H. Reeser
James Rentchler
Morris Reiser
William F. Radey
William Z. Rahn

Esther Richard
Jacob Rickenbach
Kate Scaman
Charles Schock
L. F. Schock
Reuben Schock
Mrs. Levi Snyder Est.
Mrs. Samuel Spayd, Est.
Emanuel Straus
William Spayd
Aaron Schrack
Mandus Schloppig
Gideon Stoudt
Samuel Spayd, Jr.
Edward C. Spayd
Mrs. Leah Spatz
Elias Spatz
Benneville K. Seidel
Mrs. Angelina Strauser
Wilson Strauser
Jacob H. Wangee

Tenants

Frank W. Adam
Howard S. Blatt
Charles S. Becker
Harry Balthaser
Oscar Clay
Charles O. Collins
Thomas R. Dunkel
Benneville K. Dundore
Charles R. Deisher
Jacob Dunkelberger
Samuel M. Deck
James B. Freeman
Isaac Freeman, Sr.
Robert H. Freid
Silas Gass
Milton G. Grater
Aaron L. Graff
James H. Gauker
Jacob H. Hollenbach
William C. Hafer
John J. Keim
Charles E. Keller
Charles L. Ketner
John G. Kramer
Adam W. Kendall
Harry G. Lenhart
George Lerch
Francis B. London
William L. Loose
Solomon E. Moser
Lewis D. Mervine

Franklin Mengel
Morris Miller
Rufus C. Marks
Wilson Mens
Frank P. Nocker
James Naragan
Ephraim Nettinger
Charles L. Reeser
John Z. Reeser
Samuel Roth
Levi R. Roth
Sallie Reeser
Sarah Reeser
George A. Rahn
Owen Reeser
Alfred H. Strause
Rev. D. E. Schaffer
Israel Strause
James Shade
Alvin Snyder
Girtie Strause
Wash Shell
Austin Smith
John Sheil
Joseph Spangler
Elias Spatz
Charles B. Snyder
Ellenie Schrack
Rufus P. Ulrich
James Unger
William P. Unger

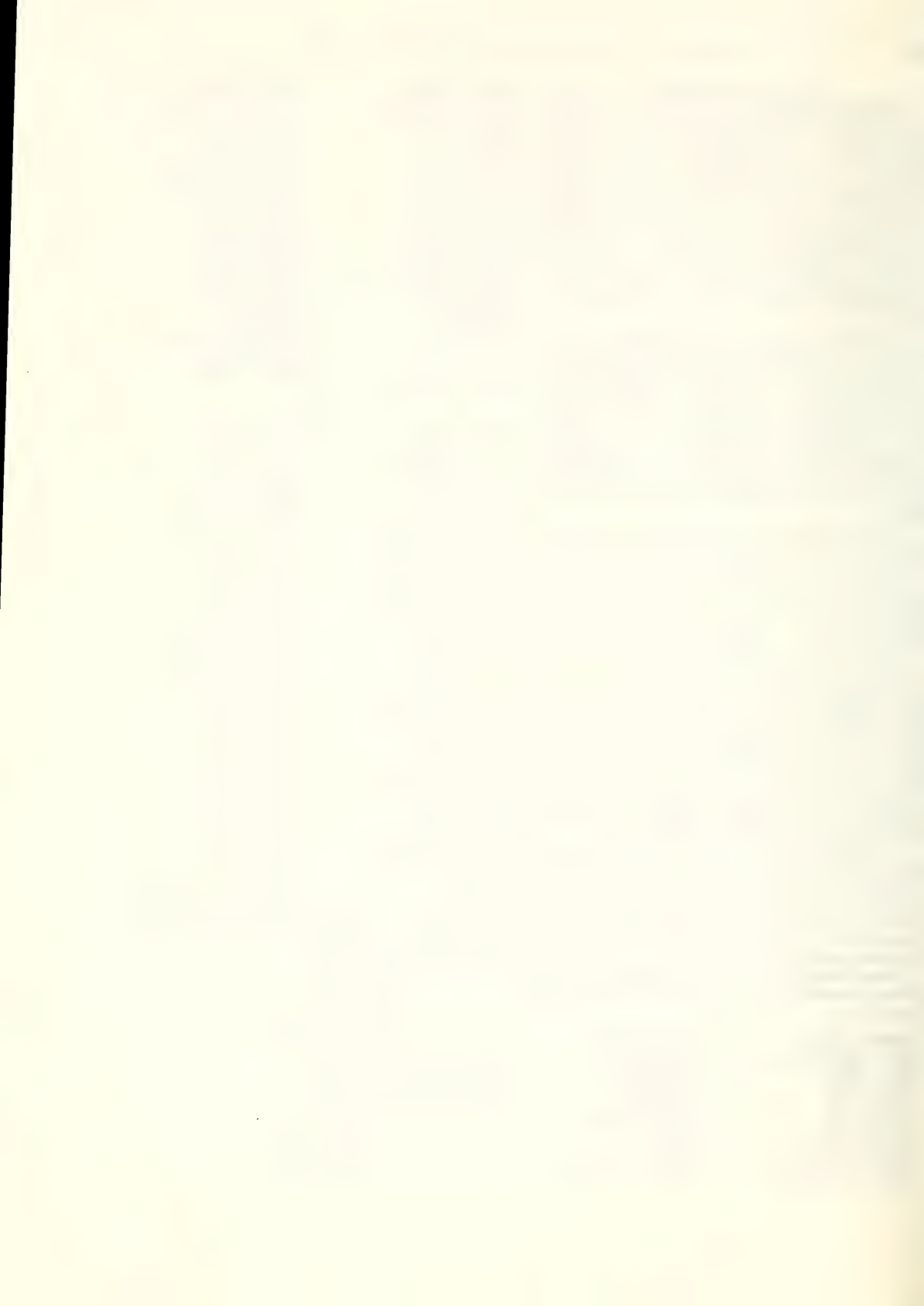
FIRST OFFICIALS.—At the February election of 1902, the first borough officials were elected, and the following list comprises the names of the persons chosen to fill the several positions:

Chief Burgess. Morris Reeser
Town Council, Gideon Stoudt
D. H. Reeser
Silas Reeser
Samuel H. Lenhart
Charles Fisher
F. P. Dundore

Auditor, Oscar Mengel

Assessor, Samuel Spayd

School Directors, J. J. Kiem
Wallace Blatt
Samuel Roth
Wilson Strauser
Charles D. Snyder
Charles Reeser



*Justice of the Peace,** B. F. Leinbach
Constable, George B. Moser
Judge of Election, George A. Rahn
Inspectors, C. E. Keller
 Frank A. Adam

The second chief burgess was elected in 1905 for three years, Samuel H. Lenhart (Republican). Political status of council: four Republicans and three Democrats. The third burgess elected, in 1908, was Gideon Stoudt.

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

Chief Burgess, Gideon Stoudt
Town Council, James B. Rentschler, President
 Samuel H. Lenhart
 John Z. Rieser
 M. T. Schlappig
 Wilson Strauser
 George C. Hartman
 Dr. C. O. Collins, Secretary
School Board, Samuel Roth, President
 D. E. Shaffer, Secretary
 Charles L. Ketner, Treasurer
 Edward Gronis
 Jacob Bagenstose
 Jacob Rickenbach
Auditors, Owen Reeser
 John Rickenbach
 Wirt R. Rahn
Assessor, Morris Rieser
Collector, Samuel Z. Deck
Justice of the Peace, B. F. Leinbach
Constable, George B. Moser
Board of Health, S. M. Deck, President
 Rufus Marks, Secretary
 George B. Hoyer
 Samuel Bell
 Dr. F. P. Dandore

INDUSTRY.—Before 1890, there was no manufacturing establishment at West Leesport; but in that year the subject was discussed in the stores and taverns, and the discussion resulted in a public meeting in February, 1891, which was addressed by Morton L. Montgomery, Esq., at the request of S. H. Lenhart, R. Wanner & Son, Isaac H. Rahn, L. F. Schock and others for the purpose of stimulating enterprise. Some time afterward, a company was organized by the citizens named for manufacturing hosiery, and the factory was located in the warehouse of S. H. Lenhart. It was operated several years, then abandoned on account of competition and scarcity of hands. In 1899 the machinery was sold to Samuel L. Miller and Charles Balthaser, who then revived the industry as a knitting-mill and after operating it for a year removed the plant to the Evangelical Church building which they had purchased. Here they have been manufacturing ladies' underwear and misses' hosiery until now. They employ forty hands.

Franklin Baer is engaged as a wheelwright and blacksmith; and John Narragang as a pump-maker.

The Eagle Knitting Mill (carried on by parties from Hamburg in the manufacture of underwear) is situated on the east side of the river, opposite the borough, and employs from forty to fifty hands.

The post-office was established in 1872.

* The other official was Isaac H. Rahn, elected as of the borough in 1904, after having served as of Bern township continuously since 1868. He died March 15, 1907.

WATER AND LIGHT.—Waterworks have not yet been established and the community still adheres to the use of wells and pumps. The streets are not lighted at night.

SECRET SOCIETIES.—A lodge hall has been maintained on the third floor of the Lenhart store since 1858. Four beneficial organizations hold their meetings in it: American Mechanics (No. 141); Odd Fellows (No. 141); Daughters of Rebekah; and Daughters of Liberty. The first society has \$10,000 at interest; and the second, \$6,000.

CHURCH.—A brick church was erected on the main street in 1872 by Salem's Evangelical Association which was dedicated in 1873. The congregation continued to worship in harmony for about twenty years, but then the religious disturbance of the national body reached this congregation also and in the final adjustment this church was retained by the original association. Its membership, however, was too weak to survive and in 1900 the building was sold to Miller & Balthaser, who converted it into a factory. The other faction, Bethany United Evangelical, maintained their organization, erected a church in 1896 and have supported it until now; membership, 35.

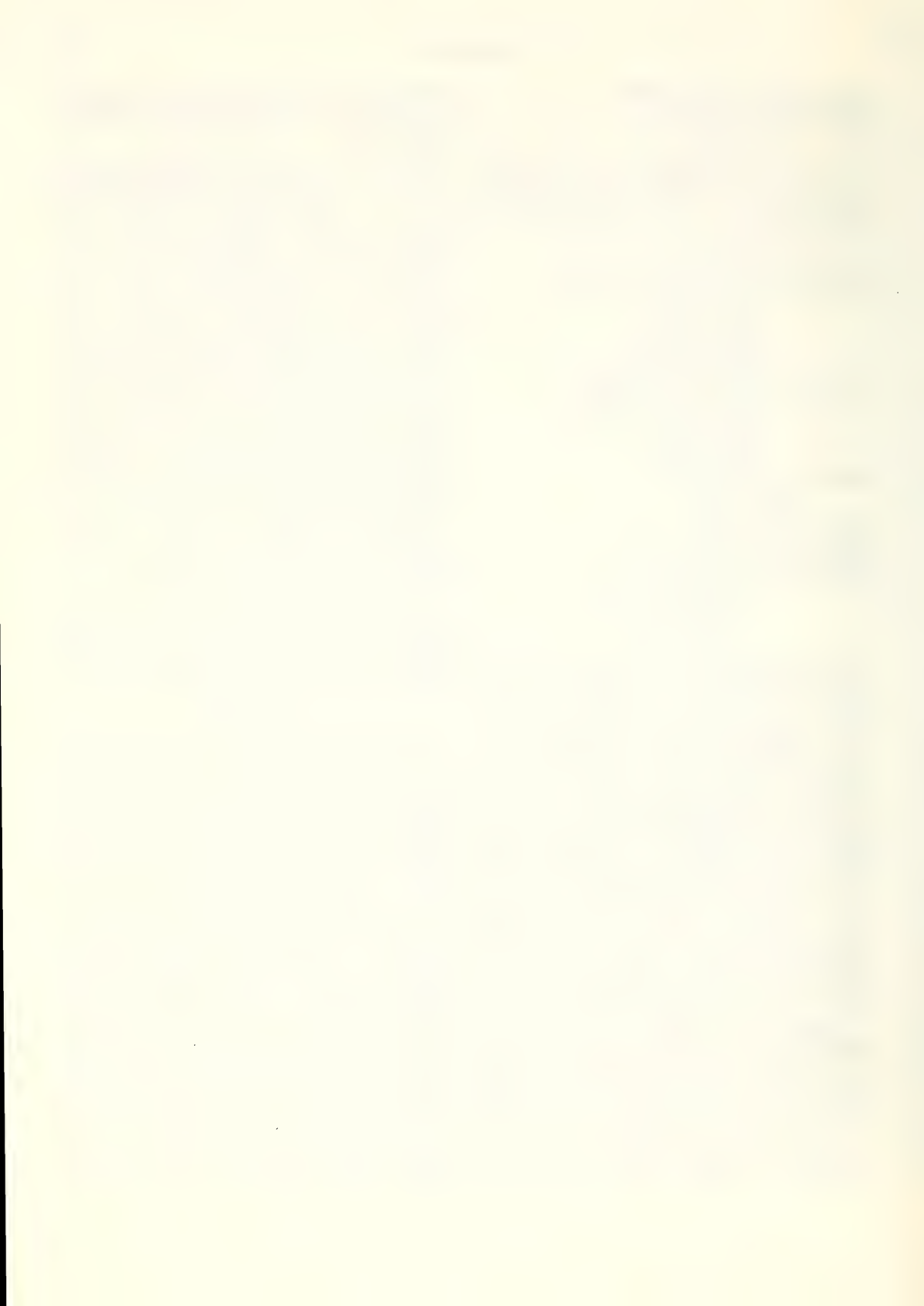
The members of the Lutheran and Reformed denominations attend religious services at Epler's Church in Bern township or at Belleman's, in Centre, or at Trinity, in Leesport.

SCHOOL.—The school in the borough was erected by the township and became the property of the borough in its establishment. It is a two-story brick building, with four rooms, and a graded system of education. The scholars number about ninety.

WYOMISSING

INCORPORATION.—The borough of Wyomissing was erected on July 22, 1906. It takes its name from the stream which flows near the dividing line between Cumru and Spring townships for several miles. It is situated along the main thoroughfare which extends westwardly from Reading, two miles from the city. The area embraced 510 acres, 92 perches of land (taken from Spring township), when incorporated, and included sixty-one resident taxables and eleven non-residents.

Ten years before its erection, Thomas P. Merritt, an enterprising lumber dealer and capitalist of Reading, purchased several farms exceeding six hundred acres, organized the Reading Suburban Real Estate Company with a number of other persons, principally from Reading (among them Albert Thalheimer, David Keiser, David H. Keiser, Matthias Mengel and Levi W. Mengel, who were the largest subscribers of stock), laid off the land into a large number of lots with boulevards and sidewalks, planted 25,000 shade trees, and called the place "Wyomissing." They advertised the suburban place extensively and sold many lots. Some of the purchasers erected dwelling-houses for themselves immediately and located there with their families, which popularized the place very much.



In this way it soon came to be the most attractive suburban town in the vicinity of Reading.

The first real impetus in the development of the place was given by Ferdinand Thun and Henry Janssen in 1896, who selected a site along the railroad for establishing a new enterprise in the manufacture of textile machinery, and erected a large building 45 feet wide and 225 feet long, with an office building adjoining, capable of employing over one hundred hands, and shortly afterward dwelling-houses came to be put up for the accommodation of some of the employees. The dwelling of Mr. Thun near the main thoroughfare was made particularly attractive which showed his strong faith in the future development of the place as well as of his own industrial enterprise. Since then, the growth of the town has been truly remarkable, both in manufacturing establishments and dwellings of a superior character.

Several years afterward, the subject of establishing a borough began to be agitated for the purpose of securing the regulation of the streets and the advantages of municipal government, and public sentiment in its behalf was developed gradually in spite of much opposition. Several petitions were presented to the court in 1904 and 1905, and the decree was made on July 22, 1906. The boundary lines embrace territory about one mile square, extending from the Lebanon Valley railroad on the north to the Wyomissing road on the south, and from Smith street on the east (now the western boundary line of West Reading) to a public road on the west commonly known as "Mengels' Mill Road."

A reservoir with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons was constructed on the top of "Laeger Hill," north of the railroad, elevated about three hundred and fifty feet above the level of the borough, and spring water was forced into this reservoir from a large spring, situated near the Wyomissing road, which was provided as the water supply for the inhabitants; but the water having been condemned afterward by the State authorities, it has been set apart for fire purposes only, and the borough has made arrangements with the Sinking Spring Water Company for its water supply, the water mains having been recently (1908) extended along the public road to the borough.

Since the establishment of the borough, great improvements have been made in the grade and appearance of the streets and in the sidewalks.

A large, superior and very attractive two-story brick school building was erected by the borough in 1907-08, costing \$25,000. It occupies a prominent position. And an attractive "Town Hall" is now in course of erection along the main thoroughfare.

POST-OFFICE was established May 27, 1899; and the postmasters have been: William Romberger, Aaron S. Hicter, Allen U. Baer (1901-03), George

W. Heffelfinger (1903-06), Alfred B. Yorgey (since May 1, 1906).

In April, 1909, the borough contained the following improvements: Textile Machine Works, Narrow Fabric Mill, Berkshire Knitting Mills, Leinbach's Hosiery Mill, Paul K. Leinbach's Planing Mill, Ruth's Coal Yard, Stetler's Apartment House, four green-houses (Farr's, Hoskin's, Shearer's, and Heck Brothers'), two hotels, and two stores.

The Reading Shale Brick Works and the Montello Brick Works are situated outside of the borough limit, along the northern boundary line.

FIRST TAXABLES.—Names of resident taxables of Wyomissing, when first established as a borough in 1906:

Charles Brehner
Napoleon Bickelman
John Bitler
Nelson J. Boltz
Alvin Becker
James N. Brannan
Clarence H. Dittes
H. D. Dunkelberger
Adam G. Eyrich
Henry Faust
Bertram H. Farr
H. M. Fry
Jacob Graeff
Clinton Grimes
Henry Ganter
Robert Ganter
Ernst L. Hahn
Harry H. Huyett
George W. Heffelfinger
Adam D. Heffelfinger
Mrs. Aaron Heiter
Caleb Harrison
Edward L. Hart
Charles Hart Est.
Charles A. Henning
J. Fred Hartgen
Henry K. Janssen
Harvey P. Kline
William E. Keyte
E. D. Kains
Frank D. Leinbach
Harvey D. Leinbach
Richard A. Leinbach
Mrs. George F. Lance
Henry Lorah
Edwin Lichtenthaler
Charles H. Mathias
Henry A. Miller
Charles H. Moyer
John Miner
Harvey L. Noecker

Daniel Noecker
Mrs. Anna Nyce
Joseph Ollinger
Christopher Prill
Samuel B. Palm
A. B. Pott
Charles Reifsnnyder
Calvin Ruth
Robert Carl Rahm
James P. Ruth
Marx Reiner
John Rentz
Adam H. Schroeder
John Stroup
William E. Sheidy
Mrs. Joel Steffy
Daniel Spatz
Howard L. Seidel
Mrs. Ida Simmons
Henry Y. Stoner
R. K. Snyder
Charles C. Stetler, Sr.
Henry M. Stetler
Obadiah F. Sander
Jacob B. Sweitzer
Frank D. Schearer
Jacob R. Sonon
Robert Starke
Samuel Shaub
Lender Trickle
Andrew I. Torbert
Charles M. Tiehel
Ferdinand Thun
Allen Van Steffy
Paul L. Walter
Thomas V. Willson
John A. Watson
Evelyn Williams
William A. Walter
A. B. Yorgey
James R. Yost

Tenants

Thomas H. Becker
Monroe Balmer
Rudolph Binckey
William Bewley
Edward Beam
Charles Brannan
Chester Baer
Elijah Brossman
George Brossman
William Buchman
Charles M. Culver
Elmer Carlson
Aannon Dearolf

Albert Dunkelberger
George W. Daniels
William Diamond
Felix Degner
Norbert Dornhecker
Edward Eschbach
Robert Eschbach
Josiah Eschbach
George W. Eudy
Paul Eifert
James A. Eyrich
Alexander Ender
Mrs. Daniel Ermentrout

Cyrus Ferker
 Otto Floren
 Edwin Gougler
 Allen Gaul
 Adam Z. Geiss
 William Grohs
 William Grim
 Thomas E. Hornberger
 William J. Hornberger
 Lester R. Heffelfinger
 Ernest Hoffman
 Lewis C. Hulshizer
 Charles M. Huber
 Fritz Hoover
 James Hill
 Frederick Heath
 George H. Hoffman
 Elias Y. Johnson
 Robert F. Kinzer
 Albert Kutz
 Ernst Kolditz
 Joseph Koontz
 Howard Keener
 Herman Kotternbach
 William Loehrig
 August Lippke
 William Long
 Isaac Lessley
 Daniel Lorah
 Joseph C. Lance
 August Lumbert
 Robert Lance
 Harvey Master
 William McGuire
 John McNabb
 William Moyer
 Ambrose Madeira
 Irenaeus Miller
 William Mohn
 Alvin Moyer
 Howard Moyer
 Edward Moyer

S. D. Mullinux
 Charles Molly
 Robert Molly
 Monroe Naftzinger
 Gustav Oberlaender
 Wilson C. Price
 Carl Peterson
 Daniel Pleam
 Jacob Ruth
 Adam Ruth
 Richard Reese
 Jesse Ritter
 Julius Rettberg
 Albert H. Rentz
 Otto Riese
 Augustus Rill
 John G. Reigner
 Henry A. Stetler
 Allen V. Steffy
 Cleaven Steffy
 George A. Stely
 John N. Stullinger
 William B. Sheidy
 Steward Smith
 Harry Smith
 George Schmidt
 Frank Shappel
 George Shaub
 Charles C. Stetler, Jr.
 Charles Sheidy
 Charlie Thus
 Francis Tichel
 Ezra Triest
 William Vanreed
 Peter Wanner
 Thomas Weichard
 George Wilson
 Robert Weller
 Thomas K. Watson
 Harry Weik
 Charles Wieand
 Melchoir Zwicky

then continued as the president. Charles M. Huber has served as clerk of the council since 1906.

The justices of the peace for the borough were elected in February, 1907, for five years: Charles M. Huber and A. B. Madeira.

Thomas V. Willson officiated as treasurer from 1906 to 1909; and Prof. Henry Y. Stoner was elected to succeed him.

The second chief burgess was elected in 1909, Horace G. Riegner, to serve three years.

BOROUGH OFFICIALS—1909

Chief Burgess, Horace Riegner
Town Council, Ferdinand Thun, President
 H. Y. Stoner, Treasurer
 Henry K. Janssen
 Henry M. Stetler
 R. R. Snyder
 George Endy
 Henry A. Miller
 Thomas Watson
 Charles M. Huber, Secretary
School Board, Robert Carl Rahn, President
 John McNabb
 John Stroup
 Norman B. Wamsher
 Harry Weik
 Harvey Noecker

Auditors, Allen V. Steffy
 W. C. Loehrig
 Paul Moyer
Assessor, Henry A. Stetler
Collector, A. I. Torbert
Justices of the Peace, Charles M. Huber
 A. B. Madeira

Constable, Jacob R. Graeff
Board of Health, Gustav Oberlaender, President
 Thomas V. Willson, Secretary
 Dr. C. E. Lerch
 John Stroup
 Norman Wamsher
 Lender Trickle, Health Officer

INDUSTRIES

Textile Machine Works.—The most important industry in Wyomissing is the large plant of the Textile Machine Works, operating a pattern shop, foundry, and machine shop, and employing over three hundred hands. In 1892, Ferdinand Thun and Henry K. Janssen, after having been employed in New York City for several years, located at Reading and established a small machine shop in a rented building at Nos. 220 and 222 Cedar street, for the manufacture of braiding machines. They started with about a dozen hands, but in a few years increased their business to such an extent that they employed from forty to fifty hands and their quarters in town becoming too small another location with greater facilities was necessary. They selected a site at Wyomissing along the Lebanon Valley railroad and secured a tract of several acres of land where the Van Reed road crosses the railroad and there they erected a large, substantial building, 45 feet wide by 225 feet long, and a two-story office-building adjoining, which enabled them to employ over one hundred hands.

When the business was organized in 1892, the braid industry in this country was comparatively

FIRST OFFICIALS.—In the decree of incorporation, the court fixed Aug. 28, 1906, for the election of borough officials, and the following persons were elected:

Chief Burgess, Bertrand H. Farr
Town Council, Ferdinand Thun (3 years)
 Henry Y. Stoner (3 years)
 James H. Brennan (3 years)
 George W. Endy (2 years)
 Henry M. Stettler (2 years)
 Henry K. Janssen (1 year)
 R. R. Snyder (1 year)

Assessor, Henry A. Stetler

Auditor, Allen V. Steffy

Constable, Jacob K. Graeff

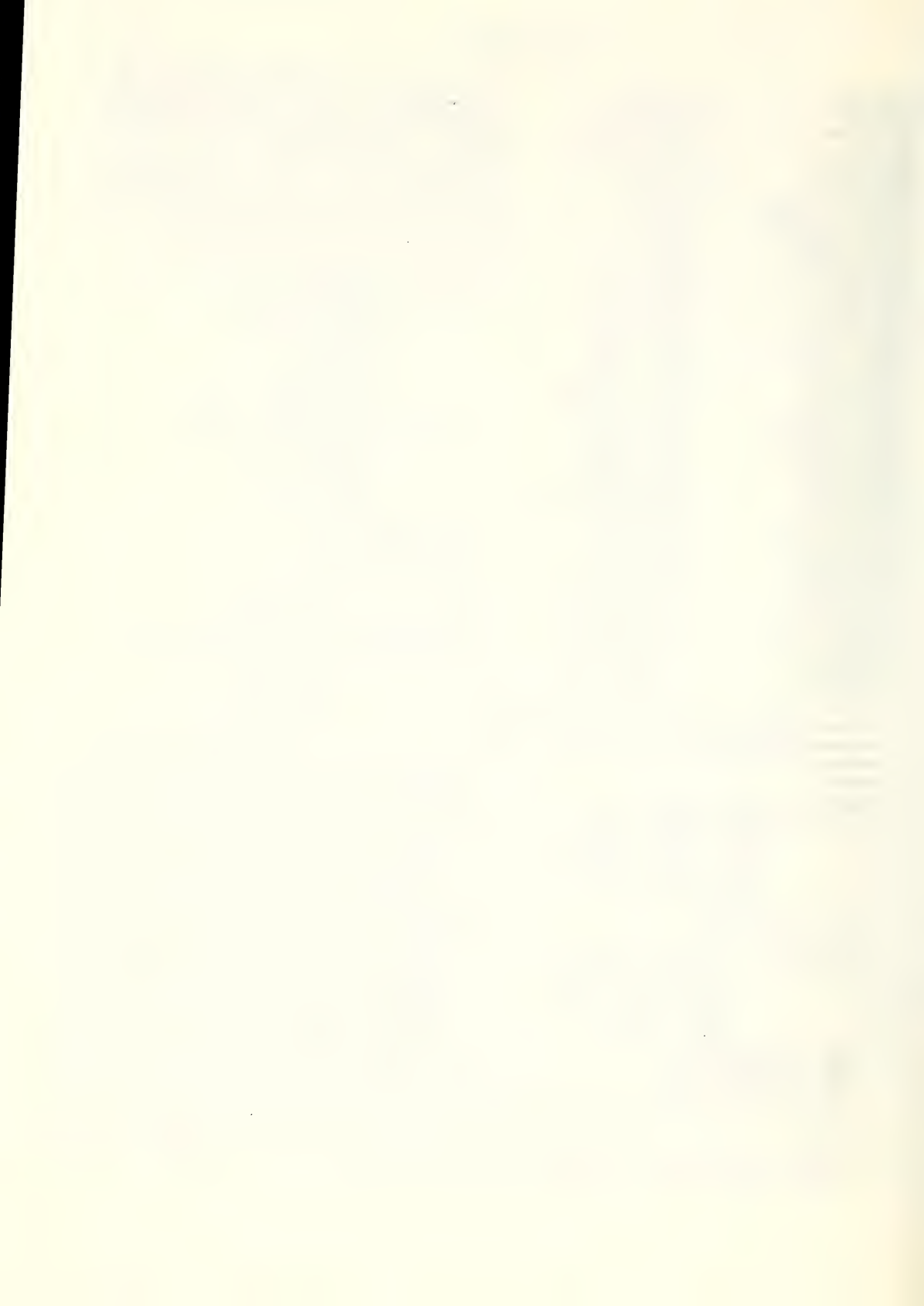
School Directors, H. M. Fry (3 years)
 A. H. Schroeder (3 years)
 Max Reimer (2 years)
 Frank Leinbach (2 years)
 Robert C. Rahn (1 year)
 John Stroup (1 year)

Judge of Election, Charles M. Huber

Inspectors, Eugene Bowers
 George Brossman

At this election, the electors voted in favor of making a debt for local improvements (95 having voted for it and 19 against it).

In the organization of the town council, Ferdinand Thun was chosen president, and he filled this position until his re-election to council in 1909, and



unimportant. Mr. Thun had for four years prior to 1892 been the superintendent of the Sutto Brothers Braid Company factory in New York City, and had become thoroughly familiar with the manufacture of high-grade braids and dress trimmings. Mr. Janssen had been in the employ of the Castle Braid Company of Brooklyn, N. Y., as the foreman of their machine shop, and had been the first builder of braiding machinery of the German system in the United States. When the partnership of Thun & Janssen was formed, it was done with the idea of supplying the demands for high-grade machinery for manufacturing braids and dress trimmings in this country to a growing business. Previously, this class of machines had always been imported from Barmen, Germany, from which place both Mr. Thun and Mr. Janssen came originally.

During the first fifteen years, a great many new factories for braids, dress trimmings, millinery trimmings, laces, etc., were established in the United States, and all of them, without exception, were supplied with machinery from their plant, known as the Textile Machine Works (Inc.). A thorough knowledge of the needs of the business enabled this company to make important improvements in the construction of the machines and to produce a great variety of new patented machines upon which new lines of business were built up. The millinery braid business, for instance, is only twelve years old and today nearly all the hats worn by ladies are manufactured on braiding machines, or rather, are made out of braids produced almost exclusively on machines built by this establishment. The concern owns over twenty patents covering new machines or elements thereof, and it is the recognized headquarters for braiding machines and auxiliaries used in the manufacture of dress and millinery trimmings.

In 1900, a large addition to the original plant was built, extending the main building to a width of 105 feet, so as to embrace a main erecting floor, and basement used for storage. A foundry was also erected in which an average of five thousand pounds of castings were made daily for the construction of textile machinery. At that time, the manufacture of "full-fashioned" knitting-machines was commenced, an industry also entirely new in the United States. On this machine, the highest grade of hosiery is manufactured. It is the machine invented about sixty years ago in England, and afterward sent to Chemnitz, Germany, and upon it the entire British and German hosiery trade has been founded. The production of this department is about equal to that of the braiding machines.

In 1903, a large factory building, 50 feet by 200 feet, four stories high, was erected, of re-inforced concrete construction. This building is partially used by some of the departments of the Textile Machine Works, but the other floors are occupied by the Narrow Fabric Company, which is the largest manufacturer of high-grade shoe laces in the Uni-

ted States. It makes a specialty of silk shoe and corset laces, using exclusively machines built by the Textile Machine Works.

Across the public road, on Frill avenue, there is situated one of the finest factory buildings in Berks county. It was built for the Berkshire Knitting Mills, being constructed of dark red-faced shale bricks with elaborate terra-cotta ornamentations. It is three stories high, with a basement for yarn storage. The dimensions of the building are 84 feet wide by 180 feet long. In addition to the main building, there is a one-story building 80 feet by 150 feet, used for dyeing, boarding and pressing.

These three industries at Wyomissing together employ nearly eight hundred hands and their combined pay rolls amount to over \$350,000 annually.

Another important product of the Textile Machine Works is machinery for insulating electrical wires. The principal machines used for this purpose are braiding machines, similar to machines used by trimming industries, but specially adapted for handling wires and covering the same with insulating materials. The Textile Machine Works have succeeded in introducing their machines into all the important plants which make insulating wires in the United States and they have won the reputation of making the best grade of machinery of this kind. They also manufacture cabling machinery, rubber covering machines for electrical wires, telephone cord machines, and a great variety of special machinery for insulating copper wires and cables which are used by the electrical industries.

Narrow Fabric Company.—This company was incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania in 1900, by Ferdinand Thun, Henry K. Janssen and Harry Feder of New York City, and was started in Reading in the building formerly occupied by the Acme Bicycle Works at No. 920 Court street. In 1904 the plant was removed to Wyomissing, in order to secure more room, the plant having outgrown the limited dimensions of the Court street factory.

The main product consists of shoe laces, and only the highest grade is made. A large portion of its product consists of silk laces which are used for low shoes, but a great many skirt braids are made, which can be found on sale in nearly every retail store in the country. The factory is a model plant, inasmuch as the machinery is driven electrically by direct-connected motors. There is not a belt in the building, and everything is scrupulously clean.

The company employs much female help, drawn largely from the surrounding country (West Reading, Sinking Spring and Wernersville). Commodious wash-rooms and dining-rooms are provided for the comfort of the employees, the management desiring to have the equipment of the factory unsurpassed by any of the textile plants in this part of the State. Howard M. Fry is the superintendent of the factory, Ferdinand Thun is treasurer of the company, and Harry Feder is president.

Berkshire Knitting-Mills.—This company was incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania in 1900,

for the purpose of manufacturing the highest class of "full-fashioned" hosiery (ladies' and men's half-hose) and it met with marked success immediately. In April, 1906, Gustav Oberlaender (of Indianapolis, Ind.) became a stockholder and director and he has since been serving as secretary, treasurer and general manager.

The building is 84 feet by 110 feet, on Frill avenue, together with a dye and finishing house. It is equipped with eighty machines, each of which is 30 feet long and makes eighteen stockings at a time. From 250 to 300 hands are employed, and its product is approximately five hundred dozen per day.

The principal product is hse and mercerized ladies' hose, which are equal to and sold in direct competition with the finest goods imported from Europe. The machines are built by the Textile Machine Works. This "full-fashioned" hosiery is superior to the seamless hosiery made in this district, inasmuch as it is of finer texture and so made as to conform to the leg and foot.

Paul K. Leinbach's Planing Mill (1908) employs 10 men (had been operated previously from 1904 by William A. Walters, and was destroyed by fire). *Leinbach's Hosiery Mill* (1905), 25 men.

MOHNTON

INCORPORATION.—The borough of Mohnton was established by a decree of the court of Quarter Sessions of Berks county on March 18, 1907, and the boundary lines embraced 291 acres, 116 perches. The petition for the borough, signed by 117 freeholders, was presented to court on Oct. 21, 1904, and shortly afterward an earnest remonstrance was filed against it. Depositions were taken and filed, for and against the granting of the petition, and the matter was before the court at different times until favorable action was finally secured on the day first named. The freeholders of the town numbered 212.

Benjamin Mohn, from Mohn's Hill in the southern section of Cumru township, purchased a farm in 1846 from John Schwartz. This was situated along the Wyomissing creek and embraced the land which afterward came to be known as Mohnsville. He then erected a dwelling-house, and some years afterward this was converted into a tavern by John Griner. It is now owned and carried on by Augustus R. Anderson.

About the same time his cousin, Samuel K. Mohn, opened a general store in a grist-mill along the creek, erected by Benjamin Mohn; and a few years afterward he erected a store building opposite the mill along the public road which was laid out through this section on the way from Reading to New Holland, and at this stand he carried on business for many years.

The character of the surface here is very hilly, and Benjamin Mohn sold off lots without first making a regular plan or survey; but, in spite of these uninviting circumstances, many houses came to be

erected for the convenience of the people who were employed in the factories established along the creek, and the thriving settlement came to be known as Mohnsville. For fifty years it has been recognized as a most flourishing settlement, notwithstanding its distance from the railroad. In this respect, it has been an exceptional community. Its success under adverse circumstances is attributable to the superior character of the men who located there.

Shortly after the beginning of the settlement, a wool-hat factory was erected by Absalom Ruth near the Mohn grist-mill. His successor was John Spatz, who operated the plant for twenty years in a very successful manner until his decease in 1898, when it was purchased by his son, Isaac S. Spatz, who has carried on the business since that time.

Subsequently, other wool-hat factories were established along the stream higher up, by Cyrus D. Hornberger, Jacob Kessler, and Henry Werley. And about this time, William Pennepacker erected a gun-barrel factory, also along the stream but below the Mohn mill, which he carried on for a number of years. All the plants were operated by water-power, supplied by the Wyomissing creek.

FIRST TAXABLES.—The following list contains the names of the first taxables of the borough when first established, in 1907:

Aug. R. Anderson

Daniel Anthony

John K. Binkley

Henry Bechtel

Savilla Blumline

Ibrahim J. Bagny

Barton Z. Bealer

John M. Bucher

Alfred Burley

Albert Burley

Augusta Blankenbiller

Frank H. Bitter

Mary Binkley

John T. Beidler

Henry Blumline

Franklin B. Bickel

William D. Bickel

Reuben K. Bucher

Archibald Boyer

William K. Blankenbiller

Oscar Blankenbiller

Adison D. Clark

Jacob De Tammel

Nelson W. Dickenson

Wilson A. Dunkelberger

Nelson H. Dickenson

Samuel De Long

John R. De Hard

James Epler

John Epler

John J. Escheban

Arabella Escheban

Electric Hose Co.

Frank T. Eckenroth

Peter F. Eberly

Charles T. Eckenroth

Charles S. Epler

Daniel S. Epler

Levi Edwards

James B. Elisher

Albert O. Fisher

John Fry

Adam G. Fox

Samuel P. Frankhouser

Aug. M. Griffith

Hiram M. Griffith

Charles R. Groff

Martin D. Grill

Charles W. Gaul

Harriet Godshak

James I. Gouglar

John Gramer

William R. Glassmoyer

Biram M. Griffith

Amelia Godshak

William D. Grill

Adam M. Grill

William S. Groff

Tyson L. Huyett

James R. Hoffert

Abraham Hoffert

James W. Harting

A. Chas. Harting

John T. Hertzog

Chas. B. Hornberger

James Hornberger

A. S. Hornberger

Josephus S. Hornberger

Emma D. Hornberger

Milton G. Hornberger

Harry G. Hornberger

Priscilla Hennig

Henry Haas

Adeline Hoover

John R. Hornberger

Sarah Y. Hill

George S. Hill

Wellington Harting

William M. Hartman

Amelia Hill

Emma B. Himmershtiz

George W. Hatt

Harrison S. Krick

Calvin S. Krick

Monroe C. Killian
John J. Klopp
Daniel Krick
Sallie A. Kleinginna
Isaac Krick
Daniel M. Kindt
C. D. B. Kindt
Walter S. Kleinginne
Sarah Karterman
Frank Kleinginna
Clayton Kilbian
Adam H. Lutz
George H. Leininger
James H. Lutz
Martin H. Lutz
John D. Leininger
Frank S. Leininger
Wm. G. Leininger
Carolina Leininger
Howard S. Leininger
Irvin R. Musser
B. K. Mayberry
Harvey W. Mohn
Hiram Matz Est.
John G. Mosser
John S. Mohn
Wesley D. Mohn
Mohnton Water Co.
Maggie Mohn
John Musselman
Harry W. Miller
Henry Miller Est.
Emma K. Mohn
Dr. M. L. Miller
Robert L. Miller
William C. Miller
Dr. B. H. Miller
Jonathan H. Miller
Richard Marks
Jacob W. Miller
William H. Muckel
Frank W. Matz
Adam S. Miller
Adam L. Matz
Martin L. Matz
Jonathan K. Miller
Albert G. Miller
Luke H. Marks
Charles S. Mohn
Reese Muckel
Charles W. Miller
Harry L. Musser
William J. Marks
Chas. F. Madeira
Caroline Musser
H. Irvin Mohn
Susanna Mohn
Aug. S. Mosser
Samuel K. Miller
Samuel H. Musser
Mohnton K. of P. Hall
Harry N. Noll
James O'Neal
Jacob Palm
Jacob Peters
Daniel N. Peifer
George K. Pawling

Samuel Palm
David Reider
Charles S. Richwine
Robert E. Riegner
Austin H. Riegner
Henry E. Kemp
Henry K. Ruth
Hiram W. Reigner
James G. Ruth
William G. Ruth
John R. Regar
Irvin L. Shonour
D. S. Sensenig
Samuel Steffy
John R. Sote
John N. Steffy
George Sheaffer
John H. Spatz Est.
Isaac S. Spatz
William E. Shirk
William H. Seifrit
Pierce S. Strunk
Dr. A. A. Stamm
John A. Seitzinger
Howard W. Sheaffer
Frank W. Sichter
Katie Smith
George W. Strunk
Levi Strunk
Benjamin K. Steffy
William P. Stoner
Frank Sweigard
George Tothoro
Isaac Trostel
William S. Trostel
George Vogel
Bessie Werner
William H. Weber
Walter S. Werner
John C. Werner
Walter Weber
James L. Weber
Adeline Wenrich
William Weber Est.
Wesley M. Worley
Alice M. Worley
Worley Brothers
Isabella Worley
Charles M. Worley
Charles G. Werner
Frank M. White
Henry H. Wise
Frank K. Walfinger
Aaron K. Warner
Annie S. Warner
E. J. Werner
H. H. Worley
William G. Werner
Jeremiah Werner
John G. Werner
Samuel F. Westley
Ellen R. White
John Y. Weidner
Frank R. Warner
Daniel W. Young
John S. Zeller

George G. Baker
Jacob E. Baker
S. S. Burkholder
Christian Burkhardt
Nathaniel Bickel
William G. Beam
George Bush
William H. Bicher
Harry S. Bicher
Edwin Binkley
Charles F. Boyer
Chester W. Baer
Harvey J. Clay
William Coleman
John R. Dehart
Christian De Binder
Felix K. De Binder
George W. Delong
Wayne Epler
David S. Edwards
Fred Eckenroth
Curtis Eberly
Harry M. Embich
Monroe Ebling
Howard Eckenroth
George S. Epler
Reuben Eckenroth
Harry H. Eckenroth
H. T. Epler
William M. Fry
Elmer E. Fox
John J. Frankhouser
John H. Fichthorn
Charles K. Frymoyer
Dr. J. W. Frankhouser
Harry H. Fritz
William F. Gaul
Walter M. Griffith
Richard Gehman
William Gehman
Henry R. Groff
William Groff
John W. Glass
Benjamin Griffith
J. B. Gougler
Harry H. Gring
John S. Gring
Albert A. Griffith
Abraham Godshalk
Harry Gehman
Harry D. Godshalk
Frank R. Good
Charles S. Holtry
James M. Hartz
Henry Hoster
Samuel Hoster
Harry W. Hughes
William E. Hughes
John H. Hartman
Harry L. Hill
Rudy Hoffert
Henry Hoffert
William Hoffert
Harry High
Freeland J. Houghton
David Hoffert
William S. Hower
Herbert Hornberger
George L. Happ
C. C. Houck
Peter F. Hartman
Jonathan B. Hatt
Daniel B. Hill
Samuel B. Hill
Wm. E. Huyett

Edwin M. Hatt
Aaron Hagy
Joseph S. Hornberger
Frank B. Hartman
Frank L. Hartman
John F. Herb
Robert B. Hatt
Edward Hartman
Martin B. Hill
Walter G. Hill
Harry G. Hill
Pierce B. Hatt
J. R. Hensyl
Lewis Hartranft
Webster G. Hertzog
Martin D. Kohl
Howard F. Kindt
Michael D. Kegerise
Howard Erick
Miles Keller
Samuel S. Keyser
Harry S. Krick
Frank F. Kline
David Long
William I. Lebo
Daniel S. Lutz
David Longenecker
Israel Longenecker
Adam Long
Benjamin H. Lorah
William M. Leininger
Samuel Longenecker
Leon Miller
William R. Musser
Adam B. Mayer
Charles J. Mosser
Nicholas Mosser
Edwin F. Miller
Matthew F. Miller
Henry G. Matz
Solomon D. Mohn
Levi H. Miller
Samuel K. Mohn
Elmer D. Miller
David D. Mell
Harry G. Mohn
John P. Marks
Charles E. Mohn
Wayne L. Musser
Thomas Mohr
Raymond W. Musselman
David F. Mohn
George Muckel
Nicholas H. Mosser
William R. Mosser
Carroll A. Miller
John B. Pawling
Thomas Palm
Harry C. Peters
Frank Peters
Howard Remp
Henry S. Riegel
Frank A. S. Riegel
Edward Rudy
John F. Reber
John C. Reber
Henry Reitz
Frank D. Ruth
William H. Ruth
Augustus C. Rohland
Wallace Rosh
Joseph Ressler
Jacob S. Riegel
William F. Riegel
Charles Staudt

Tenants

John A. Auchenbach
Wm. R. Auchenbach
James G. Boate
Edward Blankenbiller
Edward Bennetts
Homer Blimline

Harry Blimline
Harvey Boone
Cyrus Brendel
James Blankenbiller
John A. Blankenbiller
Jerome Boyer

Israel Saylor
Wayne Steffey
George W. Smith
Alfred H. Stuber
Willis Stirk
Adam F. Showalter
Elmer G. Spatz
William E. Showalter
Jeremiah V. Shonour
Zenas M. Shonour
George Shutter
Daniel F. Spatz
Elwood Sensenig
Edward H. Smith
Edward Strunk
Claude Strauss
Benton E. Shonour
F. W. Solver
Charles Steffey
Frank Sweigart
Edward Smith
M. K. Sponagle
Charles Trostel
Frank Trostel

James G. Vierling
George W. Vogel
William Vogel
Charles L. Vogel
Charles T. Valentine
Aaron M. White
Harry Wise
Paul S. Warner
Elmer Werley
John S. Wenger
Harry H. Witmer
David W. Weiler
L. Tyson Warner
James E. Werley
M. H. Werner
J. B. Werner
Jeff P. Wolfskill
Pierce Wenrich
Joseph M. Wenrich
William F. Werner
George D. Wolf-skill
Francis S. Wolf
George L. Wolfskill
Charles S. Wenrich

OFFICIALS.—The following persons served the offices named for the year 1909:

Chief Burgess, Aaron R. Wanner
Town Council, William Leininger, President
Charles Miller, Treasurer
Frank Kleingina
Irwin Shonour
John Mosser
John Eidler
A. S. Hornberger, Secretary
School Board, Dr. A. A. Stamm, President
Allen Fisher, Secretary
Dr. M. L. Miller, Treasurer
Harry Noll
Charles T. Eckenroth
Charles Werner
Justices of the Peace, D. N. Peifer
Frank W. Matz

Constable, John L. Seitzinger
Auditors, Albert Miller
Charles Madeira
John Eshelman
Assessor, John B. Werner
Collector, Joseph S. Hornberger
Board of Health, Dr. B. H. Miller
Reuben Bucher
John Zeller
William Miller
Ellis Werley

POST-OFFICE.—A post-office was established in the store of Samuel K. Mohn in 1857 by the name of Mohn's Store and this name was continued until the erection of the borough, when it was changed to Mohnton. Mr. Mohn was the postmaster for fifteen years. John Yocom Weidner has filled the position since 1897. He has been engaged in the general store business at this place for forty years. He started the business of cutting, storing and supplying ice in this section of the county and has been engaged in it for thirty years.

INDUSTRIES.—The following varied industries were carried on at Mohnton in 1909:

Bakeries, by Augustus Griffith (established 1892), with 4 hands; Groff & Ressler (1898), with 4 hands.

Cigar Factory, by J. J. Eshelman (1886), with 40 hands.

Cotton Lsp Factory, by Werley Brothers (1908), with 4 hands.

Grist Mill, by John Spatz Estate (1888), with 2 hands.

Hosiery Mills, by George Leininger (1898), with 75 hands; Wm. G. Leininger (1898), with 120 hands; Isaac S. Spatz (1903), with 35 hands; Werley Brothers (1904), with 25 hands.

Paper Box Factory, by E. G. Werner & Sons (1894), with 35 hands.

Planing Mills, by Frank Wanner (now son Tyson) (1880), with 8 hands; Isaac S. Spatz (1901), with 6 hands.

Saw Mill, by John Y. Weidner (1903), with 3 hands.

Shirt Factories, by William Werner (1897), with 30 hands; Biram Griffith (1908), with 18 hands; Dr. A. A. Stamm* (1900), with 30 hands.

Underwear Mill, by Hornberger & Killian (1908), with 25 hands.

Wool-hat Factories, by Jacob Kessler (1878), with 40 hands; Isaac S. Spatz (1898), with 50 hands.

Wheelwright Shops, by Henry Knoll (1880), with 4 hands; Henry Wise (1895), with 3 hands.

Besides the industries named, the borough contained then five stores, two hotels, three doctors, two barbers and an undertaker.

These industries demonstrate the importance and great value of the stream to the community by affording constant employment to several hundred hands. Besides the water-power, coal is also used for steam-power and heating; it is hauled by teams from Reading.

Local Express.—Howard H. Leininger started a local express business at Mohnton in 1902 for hauling manufactured goods, merchandise, coal, etc., for the local industries to and from Reading, and since then has required the constant use of twenty-five to thirty horses to fill the orders of his patrons.

The manufacturers also do much hauling to and from Reading in their business, and employ upward of seventy horses. Their nearest shipping point on the railroad is at Reading.

BANK.—The Mohnton National Bank was chartered Dec. 7, 1907, with a capital of \$25,000, and it was opened for business Jan. 21, 1908, with the following directors: George H. Leininger, L. G. Hain, John Von Neida, M. C. Kauffman, Jeremiah Horning, Augustus R. Anderson, Charles M. Yetter, Jacob C. Kessler, E. G. Werner, William G. Leininger, Henry H. Werley, Harry Dunn, S. K. Remp and Aaron A. Hornberger; of whom George H. Leininger was elected president.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Mill Dams.—The Wyomissing creek, which flows through the southern section of the borough, has been a valuable water-power to the residents of this vicinity from the time of the earliest settlements dating back to about 1735. Within the distance of two miles at and above the borough, seven dams have been constructed, which have been very

* Sold to Mary Strouse in February, 1909.

useful in supplying water-power to the industries erected along the banks of the creek. These dams are operated by the following: Josephus Hornberger (covering several acres of ground and used for swimming and pleasure purposes in the summer time and skating in the winter time); Mohn-ton Knitting Mill; Isaac S. Spatz Planing Mill and Hat Factory; Werley Hosiery Mill; Kessler Hat Factory.

Electric Plant.—In 1894, Isaac S. Spatz established a plant at Mohn-ton for supplying electric light in the residences and along the streets. He operated the plant until 1901 when he sold it to Aaron R. Wanner, who increased its capacity and has operated it since. Besides supplying electric light, it is used also for pumping water into the local reservoirs which furnish the town with drinking water.

Waterworks.—Samuel K. Mohn started water-works at this place in 1882 for supplying the town with water, and he carried on the plant until 1901, when he sold it to Howard Ahrens and W. D. Mohn, who enlarged the plant and have carried it on since. They put down an 8-inch main. The inhabitants of Shillington receive their water from this plant. The water is obtained from Klein-ginne's creek. The draft of the water pipes of the Mohnsville Water Company was acknowledged and filed July 1, 1886; Charles S. Mohn, president; John A. Bohler, secretary.

Additional reservoirs were established on the Betzler property, south of the borough, and on the Binkley property to the north, each holding about 500,000 gallons. They occupy elevated positions above the borough and afford a sufficient supply at all times. At the latter place, an artesian well, about 150 feet deep, has been provided for an extra supply of pure water.

Trolley Line.—The Reading & Southwestern Street Railway was constructed from Reading to Mohnsville in 1890, and since then has been operated successfully. In 1894, a steam railroad was constructed from Mohnsville to Adamstown. A small engine was used for several years; then electric power was substituted.

PENNWIN.—In 1904, William High purchased a tract of farming land near the eastern border of the borough from Jesse Matz, laid it off in lots and named the place Pennwin. He sold some of the lots, on which a number of dwellings have been erected; also a fine, two-story brick school building.

CHURCHES.—There are three churches at Mohn-ton: Salem's Evangelical Reformed, established in 1872, and rebuilt of sandstone in 1897; Zion's United Evangelical in 1892, built of brick, with a sandstone base; and St. John's Lutheran in 1900, built of sandstone.

SCHOOLS.—The first school house in the vicinity of Mohn-ton was on "Cedar Top," a short distance east of the village. The first township school in the village (one-story stone) was erected about

1850, where the church stands, opposite the post-office, and continued there until 1890, when it was removed to the place where it now stands. Several additions were made to it. It has six rooms. Two additional rooms have recently been supplied in another building to accommodate the increasing number of children. Some of the teachers during the past forty years have been Valentine Gulfin, Leo Hess, A. F. E. Grill, Mrs. B. H. Miller, Miss Kate Lewis, Hiram J. Bigony and William F. Bigony. In 1908, there were seven schools and 300 scholars; and the total expenditures for school purposes were \$4,360.

SECRET SOCIETIES.—Different secret societies have been instituted here, prominent among them being the American Mechanics, Knights of Friendship, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen, and P. O. S. of A.

AUDITORIUM.—In 1906, Augustus R. Anderson erected a fine large two-story frame auditorium opposite the trolley station with a seating capacity of 800, in which various entertainments have been held.

WEST READING

TOWN PLAN.—In 1864, Frederick R. Frill purchased from William Leinbach a farm of 116 acres, which now comprises the eastern section of West Reading. In 1873, he laid this land off into lots, and most of the lots in the blocks south of Penn street (West Penn avenue) were numbered consecutively from 1 to 200. The surveyor was Daniel S. Zacharias, who prepared the draft, dating it Oct. 21, 1873.

Mr. Frill sold many of these lots during the summer of that year, and delivered the deeds in October. The first purchaser was James F. Matz, carpenter (now superintendent of the West Reading Water Company). He erected the large three-story brick building at the southeast corner of Second and Penn streets, which became the Farmers' Hotel. The first row of dwelling-houses was erected in 1873 on Franklin street, between Third and Fourth streets, by Abraham F. Reeser and William Geiger, of Reading.

In 1883, George F. Baer, Charles F. Smith and Reuben E. Demmon laid off into lots a considerable part of the Jacob W. Seitzinger farm which they had purchased, and the first blocks of lots then sold lay between Fifth and Sixth streets, south of West Penn avenue to Spruce street, the sales having been effected through the Pennsylvania Trust Company.

Builders.—The first builders of the town who erected the dwelling-houses were:

Reeser & Geiger	Harry Auman
James F. Matz	Henry Trostel
Jared C. Yarnell	James M. Hain
Simon Kline	Franklin Leinbach

INCORPORATION.—After the town of West Reading had come, through the course of thirty years, to be a flourishing community, with a number of important industries and an estimated popula-



tion of 700, steps were taken in March, 1903, to establish a borough, but the remonstrance of many property holders was so vigorous during a course of six months that the proceedings were dropped. A second effort was made in November, 1906, with the conditions greatly improved, and though earnest objections were again presented the court made the decree of incorporation March 18, 1907. The boundary lines inclosed 373 acres, extending from the Wyomissing creek on the south to the Lebanon Valley railroad on the north, and from the western bank of the Schuylkill river on the east to the eastern boundary line of the borough of Wyomissing on the west.

The first public election was held May 7, 1907, when the first borough officials were elected. F. R. Himmelsberger, a prominent carriage manufacturer of the town for upward of twenty years, was chosen the first burgess, and this election started the community in its political career as a separate district.

FIRST TAXABLES.—Names of resident taxables of West Reading, when first established as a borough in 1907:

Gustav Albrecht
Milton A. Albright
William Alvine
Aron F. Adams
Aaron Adams, Sr.
William F. Adams
David F. Brown
Michael M. Baker
Thomas J. Brossman
Simon Blankenbiller
Walter A. Bleiler
Valentine Bebringer
John Blankenbiller
Adam R. Blatt
Harry B. Blankenbiller
Daniel B. Blankenbiller
William B. Blankenbiller
P. W. Brubaker
Charles H. Boyer
William F. Brobst
Charles Clark
Benjamin Cohn
Theodore M. Deck
Lloyd F. Dunkelberger
J. Adam Dieffenbach
Wellington Dunkelberger
Michael Eckenroth
Therese Engels
D. L. George Ellis Est.
John Eyrich Est.
Clara Esterline
William M. Edris
Robert C. Etchberger
Mrs. George Eckert
J. W. Forry & Son
John Fisher
Sarah Freeman
John Fox
George F. Fritz
William Foreman
George W. Fisher
Clausius J. F. Graber
Joseph A. F. Ganster
Daniel K. Graeff
Daniel S. Good

John J. Geiger
Augustus Glaser
John Gerhart
Milton A. Gring
William S. Gruber
William H. Gring
Morris J. Geiss
John P. Groff
Fred K. Graeff
John H. C. Heffner
Jefferson B. Himmelsberger
Benjamin F. Hell
John J. Haederle
Jacob S. Hill
Thomas A. Hechler
James F. Holl
Jacob D. Hilbert
Albert B. Heist
John Holzinger
Oscar P. Holl
Charles M. Hain
George M. Hain
John H. Himmershitz
Francis Y. Hemmig
William E. S. Himmershitz
Peter Homrich
Frank R. Himmelsberger
James M. Hain
Abraham W. Hain
Cornelius Himmelsberger
John Hollenbach
Augustus Hushower
Elizabeth Hechler
Hilbert & Lamm
William F. Hechler
William A. Hechler
Levi Jones
Thomas Kocher
John J. Kocher
Martin Kussler
George W. Kaulea
Annie S. Krick
Mary H. Kutz
J. Frank Kline
John Keener

William Latshaw Est.
Otto Lind
Jacob D. Leinbach
Howard Leinbach
Charles G. Labe
Walter Larkin
J. Calvin Leinbach
J. P. Lee
William W. Leinbach
Charles H. Lotz
Charles J. Link
Jacob A. Leightheiser
Calvin A. Leinbach
George F. Meriz
Elizabeth Matz
William W. Matz
Nathan H. Miller
William H. Moyer
John Mish
Thomas Mogel
William A. Miller
John Miller
George Manning
Ezra O. Miller
Frank J. Moyer
Wilson E. F. Miller
Daniel M. Miller
Peter F. Mogel
McQuade Bros.
Henry F. Miller
Frank P. Matz
William W. Machemer
Lizzie E. Markley
Charles McC
Daniel A. Mosser
Christian Ortmiller
Patrick M. Odear
Jacob D. Potts
Irvin W. Pottiger
William H. Quanter
Charles R. Quinter
Howard N. Rishel
James M. Reifsnnyder
John H. Reinert
J. S. Reber
Mary Ringler
Solomon Ringler
Arus Rhode
William H. Riegel
Ralph L. Ritzman
James I. Rishel
C. Milton Rintz

Reuben Roth
Clarence L. Rahn
Thomas P. Rahn
Martin L. Ruth
David Roth
Conrad S. Reber
Edwin G. Ruth
Fred V. Shearer
Elijah B. Smith
Jacob P. Struble
Henry Schlegel
Joseph K. Strause
James C. Seltzer
Henry J. Smith
Angeline Jane Shunk
Paul Schnabel
William J. Stamm
Mary M. Shanaman
Cletus Setley
Victor Setley
Reuben W. D. Schell
Lando Seitzinger
Charles H. Seiders
George H. Schwartz
George W. Swartz
Jacob Snyder
Monroe Stauffer
Ed. Spatz & John E. Hain
Benjamin H. Seidel
Joseph W. Shanaman
James G. Spatz
Isaiah B. Seibert
Mary A. Seibert
Mary A. Tobias
Henry F. Trostle
William F. Texter
John A. Ulrich
Ezra Von Neida & Bro.
Charles Voelker, Sr.
William F. Welder
Joseph Wounderly
Eva F. Weil
John H. Wise
Ernst Wolschendorf
Stephen S. Wissner
Wisser & Leshner
Frank Wanner
John B. Withers
Florence Frey Weidner
Jonas Weaver
Jacob C. Wolf
Homer S. Yost
J. G. Yarnell

Tenants

Frank Anderson
William J. Allgaier
Harry Anderson
Dr. Silas Barris
Claude R. Bright
Raymond C. Bright
Edwin J. Bisler
Edgar J. Becker
Irvin M. Becker
Charles D. Bailey
Charles L. Becker
Adam E. Baer
Herbert S. Bryson
A. H. Bright
Levi P. Clay
Charles R. Clay
S. Irvin Chrisman
Fred Crossland
Harry F. Clark
David Care

H. Walter Care
John F. Crouse
Thomas J. Crimmins
Henry I. Clay
Lewis L. Conrad
John R. Dellicker
Harry D. Dean
Walter Y. Dauber
Howard R. Deisher
William G. Dierolf
J. Frank Dohner
Frank Day
Albert H. Deeds
George Dundore
Harvey Y. Dauber
Thomas Eckenroth
John H. Ellis
John H. Eyrich
Stewart Esterline
Charles H. Ellis

Ezra P. Etchberger
 Charles A. Eyrich
 Harry East
 R. Resley Eckert
 John J. Freyberger
 William I. Fritz
 Harry J. Fisher
 Charles Folk
 E. M. Feltenberger
 Alfred B. Fies
 George K. Fox
 Charles J. Feather
 Milton Fisher
 Newton W. Fry
 W. Calvin Fisher
 Nathan F. Fisher
 Irvin P. Fessler
 Frank S. Forry
 Harry Good
 George W. Geiger
 Jacob A. Geiger
 Joseph Gahbler
 John H. Gerhart
 James A. Gerrett
 John Grady
 William A. Gring
 Howard Groff
 R. H. Gibson
 Elmer L. Henne
 William C. E. Herman
 John E. Hain
 Oliver S. Heck
 Jacob Oscar Hill
 Herbert W. Hechler
 Henry Hoyer
 John H. Hoyer
 Wellington R. Hiester
 Walter W. Heist
 Charles Himmelberger
 Stephen Holzinger
 Jacob S. Heft
 James M. Huber
 Bert Heffelfinger
 George Huffnagle
 George R. Himmelberger
 Irvin D. Hetleger
 Irvin D. Hinershitz
 Charley A. Hinershitz
 William J. Hemmig
 Frank M. Hain
 John Himmelberger
 George W. Hechler
 Jacob A. Hechler
 William C. Hechler
 Curtis M. Hertz
 Frank K. Hertz
 Harry W. Hinershitz
 George Haldeman
 Henry W. Haupt
 George Jones
 Henry A. Kemp
 Simon S. Kline
 Walter S. Kline
 Elias Kunkelman
 Charles Kalbach
 Evan F. Kalbach
 William G. Klopp
 Granville M. Keim
 Samuel Kummerer
 Harry J. Kramer
 Charles W. Koch
 H. Urias Klien
 John H. Klopp
 Charles A. Keller
 William Kilfinger

Lewis O. Kantner
 John A. Kintzer
 Irvin D. Klopp
 Thomas C. Lott
 Joseph Livinghouse
 Frank S. Lebo
 Jeremiah H. Lebo
 John Lind
 Thomas Latshaw
 Charles C. Lamm
 Jonathan Lesher
 John E. Leibensberger
 Henry E. Leader
 Robert W. Latshaw
 William C. Lewars
 Edward Law
 Marion Larkin
 George E. Leisey
 Nathaniel W. Lieb
 George R. Lieb
 J. Edwin Lieb
 Richard Leinbach
 Milton Lanini
 Harry S. Lobach
 Nelson J. Leinbach
 George W. Magargle
 Samuel A. Machmer
 William Madeira
 Jaues F. Matz
 Robert B. Moyer
 Isaac Moyer
 George E. Moyer
 John F. Morgan
 William H. Martin
 I. Lawrence Moyer
 Harvey W. Moyer
 Jacob E. Murry
 Charles F. Moyer
 Charles B. Miller
 Edwin Maley
 Edward M. Miller
 Howard G. Mercer
 Franklin S. Miller
 William J. Mays
 Isaac K. Miller
 David Miller
 David J. Miller
 Charles Miller
 Oscar E. Miller
 George C. Miller
 George Mountz
 William McAdoo
 William H. Mays
 Harry W. Moser
 John L. Moser
 Frederick G. Nunnemacher
 Thomas G. Noll
 Charles Noecker
 John W. Noll
 David Oswald
 Patrick Odear
 Charles E. Painter
 Frank Peiffer
 Charles F. Reichert
 Howard H. Ritter
 Wellington Reber
 Edwin W. Ritz
 Harvey C. Ritz
 William J. Ritz
 Howard H. Reifsnnyder
 Henry Ruffner
 Howard S. Rentz
 Albert Kollman
 Christian A. Reese
 Charles P. Riegel

S. W. Rhoads
 Samuel Rhoads
 Henry H. Reber
 Webb J. C. Rightmyer
 John M. Shiffer
 Harry Stuber
 Thomas Stables
 Walter C. Snyder
 Howard J. Siegfried
 William Stadelmyer
 Benjamin F. Stamm
 Reginald E. Smith
 Franklin H. Stoudt
 John A. Stoudt
 Martin Sweigert
 Benjamin F. Spatz
 Harvey E. Swisher
 Eugene Sterner
 John L. Shuler
 Charles Y. Shaner
 Alvin S. Schlegel
 David H. Shunk
 David F. Shunk
 John Shunk
 George A. Spayd
 Frank H. Struble
 John L. Steckler
 Wilson K. Straus
 Charles Schaeffer
 Oscar C. Schaeffer
 Richard J. Stein
 J. David Schaeffer
 John Jacob Shanaman
 Albert Stoudt
 Irvin Stoudt
 Charles H. Stoudt
 Frederick S. Seidel
 Frank B. Steigerwald
 T. William Stamm
 Levi S. Stamm
 Edward Sohl
 Paul P. Spahn
 Arthur G. Smith

Harry A. Schneider
 Charles A. Strunk
 William H. Spatz
 Howard S. Schaeffer
 Oscar S. Schaeffer
 Charles M. Schaeffer
 William S. Schaeffer
 William H. Tyson
 Edward F. Thiele
 Samuel A. Trupp
 William B. Thomas
 Frank P. Ulrich
 Lewis Z. Voelker
 Charles T. Voelker
 John M. Wilson
 Isaac Wolfinger
 Harvey C. Wayne
 Wellington B. Wayne
 Joseph Weitzel
 John Weitzel
 Adam Weitzel
 Cyrus W. Weller
 Oscar W. Weil
 Charles E. Wiedinmyer
 William E. Wounderly
 H. William Wagner
 Clarence Wennell
 Charles Waesner
 John A. Walls
 John T. Walls
 Jacob Wenrich
 John Woundly
 Charles A. Weidner
 Howard W. Whitmoyer
 Samuel Weaver
 Oscar Weible
 William Weathers
 Amel Ernst Wolf
 Joel Ziemer
 John Zierner
 John Ziegler
 William Zechman

OFFICIALS FOR 1909.—The following list comprises the officials of the borough for the year 1909:

Chief Burgess, Arus Rhode

Town Council, Benjamin Seidel, President
 Thomas Brossman, Treasurer
 William Machmer
 Walter Heist
 Morris Geiss
 William Hechler
 Wilson Miller
 Charles Voelker
 Charles Miller, Secretary

School Board, Milton A. Gring, President
 Thomas Hechler, Secretary
 R. W. D. Schell, Treasurer
 James I. Rishel
 Wm. E. S. Hinershitz
 John Hetterly

Justices of the Peace, Frank Dohner
 Ezra Etchberger

Constable, Hamilton Brown

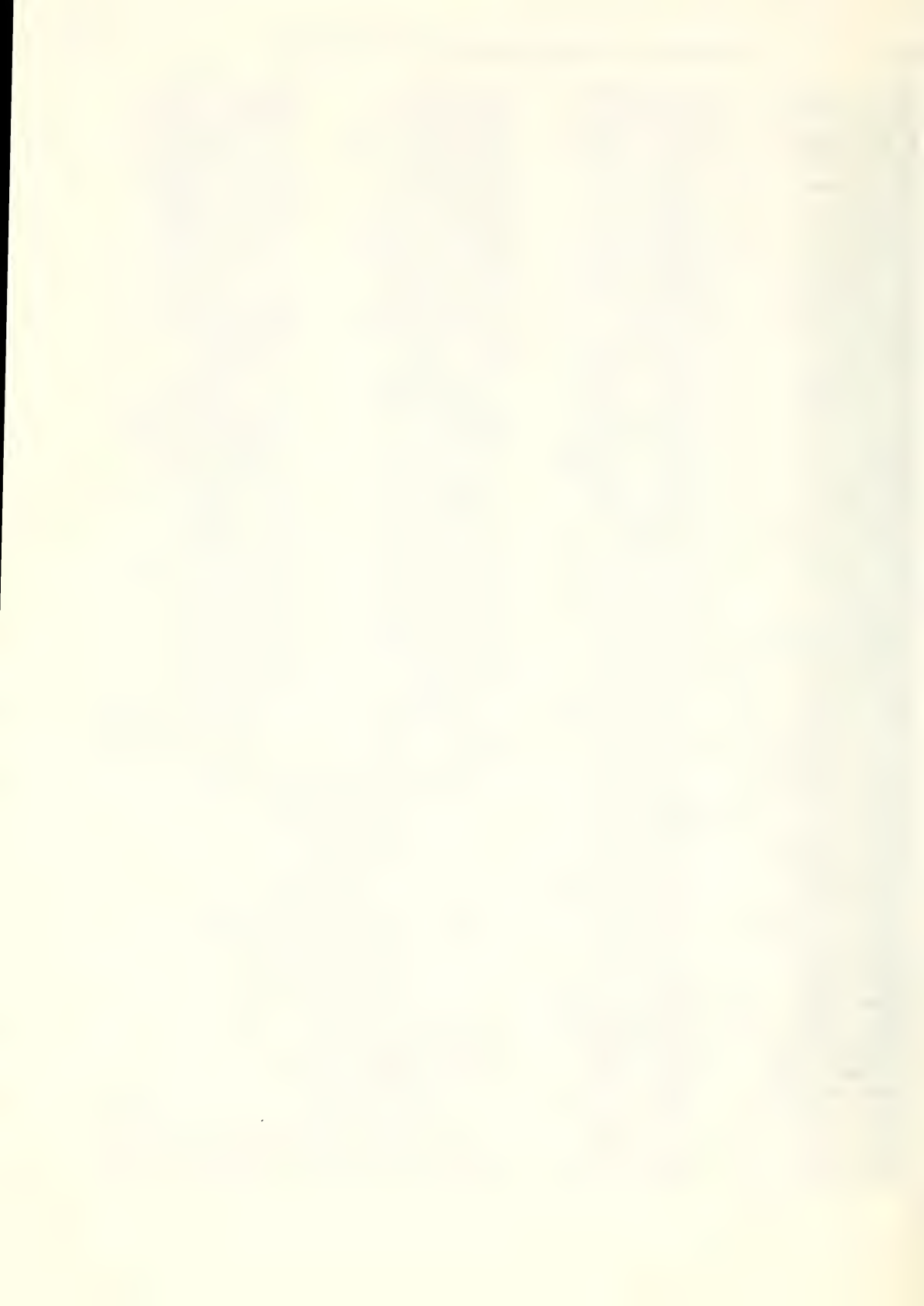
Assessor, Claude Gruber

Collector, William H. Riegel

Auditors, Frederick Nunnemacher

Richard J. Stein
 Irvin P. Fessler

POST-OFFICE.—The post-office was established June 23, 1892. The postmasters have been: S. S. Wisser, William Tyson, Charles Schaeffer, and Blankenbiller Brothers (the last named since 1904).



INDUSTRIES

Brick Yards.—About 1847, Drexel Brothers (John, Reuben and Jacob) started the manufacture of common clay brick on a tract of land along the Tulpehocken road several hundred feet north of West Penn avenue and carried on the yard for many years. George W. Drexel (a brother of those named) was the last of this family to engage in the business and he ceased in 1904.

Moyer & Co., of Reading, engaged in the manufacture of clay brick in West Reading in 1885, and have continued until the present time. They started with a limited annual production, but gradually developed their business until they came to employ from seventy to one hundred hands and to produce annually 5,000,000; which are sold almost entirely to local trade for building and paving purposes at Reading and West Reading.

Conrad Kaltenbach started in 1894 and established a large plant for the manufacture of brick by machinery and carried on the business extensively until 1900, when he sold it to Simon Kline; and Mr. Kline has continued until the present time. His trade is local. He employs twenty-five to thirty hands, operates the plant the whole year, and produces about 5,000,000 annually. He owns in a connected tract about twenty-five acres of land, which lie between Third and Sixth streets, south of Chestnut.

Crusher Plants.—About 1870, while the projected South Mountain railroad was being extended from Strausstown by way of Bernville to a point opposite Reading, a quarry was opened at "Leinbach's Hill," adjoining the west end of the Penn street bridge. Different parties operated the quarry and a crusher to supply crushed stone with more or less success for upward of thirty years, when the property was leased from the owner, Rev. George Bornemann, by the McQuade Brothers (James P. and Michael), of Pottstown, in 1906, when they substituted a larger and more improved crusher with a daily capacity of six hundred tons and have since operated it very successfully. Arrangements are now being made (April, 1909) to enlarge the daily capacity to nine hundred tons, to meet the demands of their business. Most of their product is supplied to the city of Reading. They employ fifty hands and ten teams.

In 1906, Simon Kline established a crusher on his premises and has since carried it on in connection with his brick works. He employs ten men and produces about an hundred tons daily.

Hat Factory.—In 1880 George W. Alexander erected a large three-story brick factory for the manufacture of wool hats and equipped it with the necessary machinery, and after carrying on business in a very successful manner for ten years the plant was destroyed by fire. He immediately rebuilt the factory and equipped it with the most improved machinery for the manufacture of soft fur hats. His son Edgar then became a partner and they traded under the name of George W.

Alexander & Son. In 1903 the father died and since then the son has continued the business in the same firm name. This enterprise provides employment for about three hundred hands.

Keiser Manufacturing Company.—David H. Keiser, after having been connected with the Wilkinson Shear Company at Reading for upward of ten years, embarked in the business of manufacturing sheep and grass shears at West Reading in 1903. He established a plant and has since developed a large trade which extends to all parts of the world. He employs twenty-five hands.

Himmelberger Carriage Works.—F. R. Himmelberger started making buggies and wagons at Reading in 1883, and carried on business two years, when he located in West Reading, a short distance beyond the Penn street bridge, and operated a plant there with George H. Smith as a partner, trading as Himmelberger & Smith, for thirteen years. Then Smith withdrew, to engage in the same business at Reading, and Himmelberger established a larger plant on Second street, which he has conducted in a very successful manner until the present time, manufacturing all kinds of buggies, light wagons and heavy wagons, which are forwarded to all parts of this and the surrounding counties. In 1907, he erected another large building to meet the demands of his trade. His plant is equipped with the latest improved machinery. He has superior drying lumber sheds, with upward of 75,000 feet of lumber (hard and soft) on hand. He employs upward of thirty mechanics and laborers. It is the largest works of the kind in the county outside of Reading. Mr. Himmelberger is interested in the local government, having served as the first chief burgess.

George M. Hain started a wagon works at Sink-ing Spring in 1894, and after carrying on business for five years located at West Reading, where he has been engaged until the present time, making carriages and wagons to order. He employs five hands.

Bonnet Factory was established in 1907 by Charles Voelker and his son Charles, trading as the Berks Manufacturing Company. They erected a three-story brick building and equipped it with machinery adapted to the making of sunbonnets, children's plain suits, aprons, and dry-goods specialties; with a complete laundry in the basement. They employ from thirty to thirty-five hands, mostly females. Previously they had been engaged in this business at Reading for several years.

Flour-mill.—In 1884, the large brick flour-mill of Irving Shaneman at the foot of Penn street, adjoining the bridge on the south, was removed in the construction of the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad, and he then purchased a lot of ground from Frederick R. Frill at the intersection of the river road with the turnpike and erected a large stone grist-mill to take its place for carrying on his established trade. In 1891 Daniel F. Dietrich became the owner and he equipped

the building with the latest improved roller-process machinery. He carried on the business extensively with his son Wellington as a partner until 1898, when he sold the plant. It was afterward owned and operated by different parties until 1903, when Benjamin Cohen became the purchaser and since then the mill has been carried on by him. Five hands are employed. He lives at Altoona.

Sausage Factory.—In 1890 Thomas Rahn established a sausage factory at West Reading and has since manufactured many tons of "summer" sausage annually, which he disposes of at wholesale. He started in the business at Shoemakersville and was engaged there one year and in Muhlenberg township several miles north of Reading four years, when he located at West Reading.

Eagle Soap Works has been carried on since 1906 by Theodore M. Deck, manufacturing hard and soft soaps, with several hands.

Holl Bakery has been carried on since 1894 by Oscar P. Holl, employing several hands and delivery teams. He produces from two hundred to five hundred loaves of bread daily and serves many families. He also bakes pastry and cakes of all kinds.

Brass Works was established at the west end of the Penn street bridge in 1906 by John Fasig and it has been occupied by several parties. It is a two-story brick building.

Crew-Levick Company established an oil station at Wyomissing in 1900 and removed it to West Reading, adjoining the Belt Line railroad, in 1902.

Heck Coal Chutes.—In 1904, H. J. Heck, of Reading, established large coal chutes along the "Belt Line" which he has since enlarged, developing their total capacity to 20,000 tons. He supplies a large trade at Reading as well as his patronage in West Reading.

First Store.—William E. S. Himmershitz established the first grocery store here in 1880, and has carried it on since, though latterly in a limited way. He has served as a school director of Spring township and the borough for twenty years and was chiefly instrumental in securing a large and modern school building for the eastern end of the township, to answer the demand of the rapidly increasing population. [See biographical sketch in this publication.]

Wisser Store.—S. S. Wisser, after being in business at Reading for several years, located in West Reading in 1883 and established a grocery store which he developed into a large and successful stand. In 1902 he added a furniture department. [See biographical sketch in this publication.]

In April, 1909, there were in the borough, besides the industries and improvements detailed, the following:

Grocery stores	8	Hotels	2
Drug store	1	Restaurant	1
Retail meat shops	3	Barber shops	2

Blacksmith shops	2	Shoemaking shop	1
Wheelwright shops	2	Painter and paper-hanger ..	1
Carpet weaving shop	1	Physicians	2
Saddler and harness shop ..	1	Minister	1

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Water Company.—George R. Frill and Charles H. Schaeffer established the West Reading Water Company in 1886, locating a pumping station and filtration plant at the foot of Chestnut street, and the reservoir (consisting of two cedar tanks) with a total capacity of 50,000 gallons, where the large iron stand-pipe was substituted in 1902, 60 feet high and 20 feet in diameter, with a capacity of 150,000 gallons. Mr. Frill was president until his decease in 1894 when he was succeeded by Mr. Schaeffer (who had served as secretary) and Mr. Schaeffer has officiated since. Mr. Schaeffer's son, E. Carroll Schaeffer, Esq., is the secretary and James F. Matz, superintendent.

The company has about four hundred patrons. It also supplies the inhabitants of the borough of Wyomissing whose residences are situated east of the Bernville road.

Fire Company.—The West Reading Fire Company was organized in 1901, secured a chemical engine and erected a frame building with a bell tower. It has one hundred members.

Belt Line.—A line of railroad was constructed through the eastern section of West Reading and opened for traffic in 1902 for the purpose of running coal and freight trains around Reading, in order to avoid the congestion of trains at the depot and limit the interruption to business at the Penn street crossing.

Halls.—The third floor of the West Reading Hotel has been set apart for amusement purposes.

The old one-story brick school building with its extension, situated on Franklin street between Second and Third streets, was purchased by William F. Behringer, retail butcher, upon its abandonment by the school directors when they took possession of the new school building, and he converted it into a hall for entertainments of all kinds. It is convenient of access and has a seating capacity of several hundred.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.—Members of the Reformed denomination residing in West Reading organized a congregation in 1891 and erected a one-story brick church building where they have held services until the present time. Arrangements are being made to erect a superior new church in a more prominent locality.

Members of the Lutheran denomination also formed an organization and erected a one-story brick church building in 1896, where they have held services since.

In 1898 a large double two-story brick school building was erected by the school district of Spring township, which displayed the enterprise of the directors and their appreciation of the future promise of West Reading, and when the borough was

established this school building became its property. The total cost was near \$20,000.

ECKERT RESIDENCE.—George J. Eckert (fire brick manufacturer of Reading) was one of the first purchasers of lots in West Reading, having in 1814 purchased a block of lots along Penn avenue extending from Second to Third streets, and several years afterward erected on a knoll a fine two-story mansion for his residence which has occupied much prominence in the town until the present time.

SHILLINGTON

INCORPORATION.—The borough of Shillington, embracing an area of 284 acres of land, was erected by the court of Quarter Sessions of Berks county on Aug. 18, 1908. The application was presented on Sept. 9, 1907, and signed by 160 citizens of Cumru township, who resided in the vicinity of the "Three-Mile House," a long-established public place at the intersection of the Lancaster road with the thoroughfare commonly known as the "Philadelphia road," three miles southwest from Reading. Many property holders had entered a determined protest, but without avail.

In 1844, John Beidler secured the farming land there from the Valentine Stroup estate, upon which the "Three-Mile House" came to be established as a hotel, and the Beidlers have continued to own it until the present time. In 1848, Samuel Shilling purchased 128 acres, part of the same farm. In 1860, he laid off part of the land into lots, and soon afterward the place came to be known as Shillington. James G. Lash purchased part of the farm and in 1891 laid it off into lots; after which time the place grew rapidly by the erection of dwellings. The post-office was established in 1884.

In 1893, the heirs of Jonathan Miller, deceased, sold seventy-two acres, 107 perches of land to the west of Shillington to Henry Ahrens, George Eltz and J. B. Sterley, of Reading, and they laid it off into lots, which they called Edison, and then that section came to be improved rapidly.

The hotel was a popular resort for many years, more especially after a racing track had been established there in 1868. Previously the highway from that point toward Reading was occasionally used in spirited running races by ambitious owners of speedy horses, which attracted much public attention.

This section of road from the hotel to the bridge (crossing the Schuylkill river) was the first in the county to be improved by the State Highway department. The improvement was made in 1904-07, at a cost of \$18,326.

Shillington became connected with Reading by trolley line in 1890; and the same year the line was extended to Mohnton (now Mohnton).

FIRST OFFICIALS.—The first election of borough

officials was held on Sept. 1, 1908, resulting in the election of the following officials:

Chief Burgess, Adam Rollman
Council, Martin Fritz (3 years)
 Geo. E. Schupp (3 years)
 A. Harry Boyer (3 years)
 James Fry (2 years)
 John T. Strunk (2 years)
 Oswin F. Kroyer (1 year)
 Albert Tobias (1 year)
School Directors, William A. Miller (3 years)
 Chas. M. Yetter (3 years)
 Levi Lausch (2 years)
 W. H. Dankle (2 years)
 Frank Miller (1 year)
 Harry G. Hain (1 year)
Auditors, Calvin Wise (3 years)
 Enos Messner (2 years)
Judge of Election, Frank M. Grill
Inspectors, Charles Weiders
 Oscar B. White

On Feb. 16, 1909, the regular spring election was held and the following officials were elected to complete the local government established the previous September:

Chief Burgess, H. L. Hartman
Town Council, Oswin F. Kroyer
 Irwin Bitting
School Directors, William Fichthorn
 Harry G. Hain
Collector, Henry G. Fritz
Auditor, John W. Wertz
Justices of the Peace, Cyrus Brendle
 Cyrus Hemmig
Constable, Charles Bossler

FIRST TAXABLES.—The following list embraces the names of the first taxables of the borough:

Joseph F. Artz	Samuel Curley
Cyrus D. Althouse	Elias H. Coldren
Howard W. Althouse	William B. Conrad
Caroline Artz	Addison F. Dietrich
David U. Bortz	Henry P. Deeds
A. Harry Boyer	Mary Deeds
James Beckey	William H. Dankle
David B. Becker	Edward Dehart
Harry A. Beyler	Christian W. Erb
Frank W. Bitting	George B. Erb
David B. Becker	Frank R. Eshelman
Lillie M. Baer	Lizzie Frees
Emeline Body	John L. Fritz
Annie M. Bitting	Annie E. Fastnacht
Cornelius Beechert	Cyrus W. Fastnacht
Esther J. Bickel	Hannah Fry
Aaron E. Baer	James H. Fry
Sophia Burkhardt	Charles H. Fisher
Samuel G. Burkhardt	Annie Fromm
Lydia Bickel	Matilda Fritz
Irwin W. Bitting	William H. Fichthorn
Monroe Blankenbiller	Catharine Foreman
Wellington Bickel	Harry T. Fritz
James M. Bartron	Catharine Fritz
David A. Brensinger	Mary Flickinger
Andrew G. Burkhardt	Henry Fritz
Adam Brown	Henry G. Fritz
William H. Bohn	Martin H. Fritz
Augustus G. Body	Harrison D. Foreman
William S. Bachman	L. W. Frankhouser
Orville F. Becker	Ella C. Goodman
Frank F. Royer	George H. Gaul
Charles Bossler	Franklin P. Gaul
Henry L. Clouser	Benneville M. Gaul
Rosa Coldren	Frank M. Grill

Adam F. E. Grill
John M. Grill
Howard G. Gettis
Daniel D. Goll
Annie M. Hartman
Nelson Hoffert
Benton L. Henning
Abner M. Harding
Harvey T. Huyett
Cyrus H. Hemmig
Annie Houser
Nicholas J. Hoffert
Grace T. Hoffert
Jacob C. Hoshauer
Dr. M. Luther Huyett
Henry T. Hoffert
Martin H. Hertzog
Ella R. Hornberger
Benneville H. Hemmig
Mary M. Hill
Harry G. Hain
Dr. L. G. Hain
William P. High
Sallie A. High
Amelia Hill
Sallie Knauer
Oswin F. Kroyer
Susan Kring
Harvey Kring
William S. Krick
Wellington S. Krick
Amos Kurtz
Levi W. Kachel
George S. Kleinginna
Henry K. Kieffer
Elizabeth Kurtz
Wellington Kachel
John Keffer
Pierce Killian
S. B. Klopp
Frank J. Klopp
Charles W. Lorch
Isaac G. Leininger
Mrs. Gordon Lutz
James G. Lash Estate
Charles Marks
Priscilla Marks
Ella A. Matz
Rachel Moyer
F. P. Matz Estate
Charles G. Moser
David Matz
Henry V. Mohn
William V. Mohn
Frank H. Miller
John Y. Matz
Louisa Matz
Jacob H. Matz
Mary H. Mohn
S. H. Miller Estate
James N. Miller
Lillie W. Miller
Amanda Moore
Rhein B. Messner
William W. Miller
Harry O. Moyer
William A. Matz
William A. Martin
Henry B. Matz
George H. Matz
Ida R. Miller

Joseph R. Naugle
A. Frank Naugle
Elizabeth Oberholtzer
Mary Ott
James H. Pennapacker
James F. Pennapacker
William H. Palin
John H. Price
Katharyne J. Porter
Charles Rintz
Cyrus Reber
Ella Reber
Rebecca Reber
Francis Ruffner
Adam Rollman
Henry R. Ruth
Howard E. Ruth
Amos E. Ruth
John H. Ronig
Mary N. Savage
John Streiberger
George Shupp
Amanda Schnader
Catherine Schnable
Wilson Sweetzer
James A. Stafford
Maria Schaeffer
Charles T. Scott
Maria Schweitzer
Anna Schweitzer
Jacob Schadle
L. W. Spires
Samuel B. Schweitzer
Herman G. Sowa
Amelia Spears
George E. Schaeffer
Jacob S. Steininger
Levi D. Stetler
Clinton E. Shilling
Frederick E. E. Shilling
Howard M. Shilling
William M. Stetler
John T. Strunk
David L. Stoner
Edwin E. Smith
George H. Trout
Albert H. Tobias
Jacob S. Tothoro
Isaac Tothoro
Lucy N. Tothoro
James R. Trout
Michael Thiry
Elmer F. Trostel
William Trostel
James Von Neida
Ezra G. Von Neida
William A. Wentzel
John M. Wertz
Carolina Wertz
Jonathan Wanger
Oscar B. White
Mary H. White
Sarah B. Wilson
John Wolfkill
J. Calvin Weiss
Peter White
Charles M. Yetter
Emma B. Yetter
Harry W. Zwally
Matilda B. Zellers

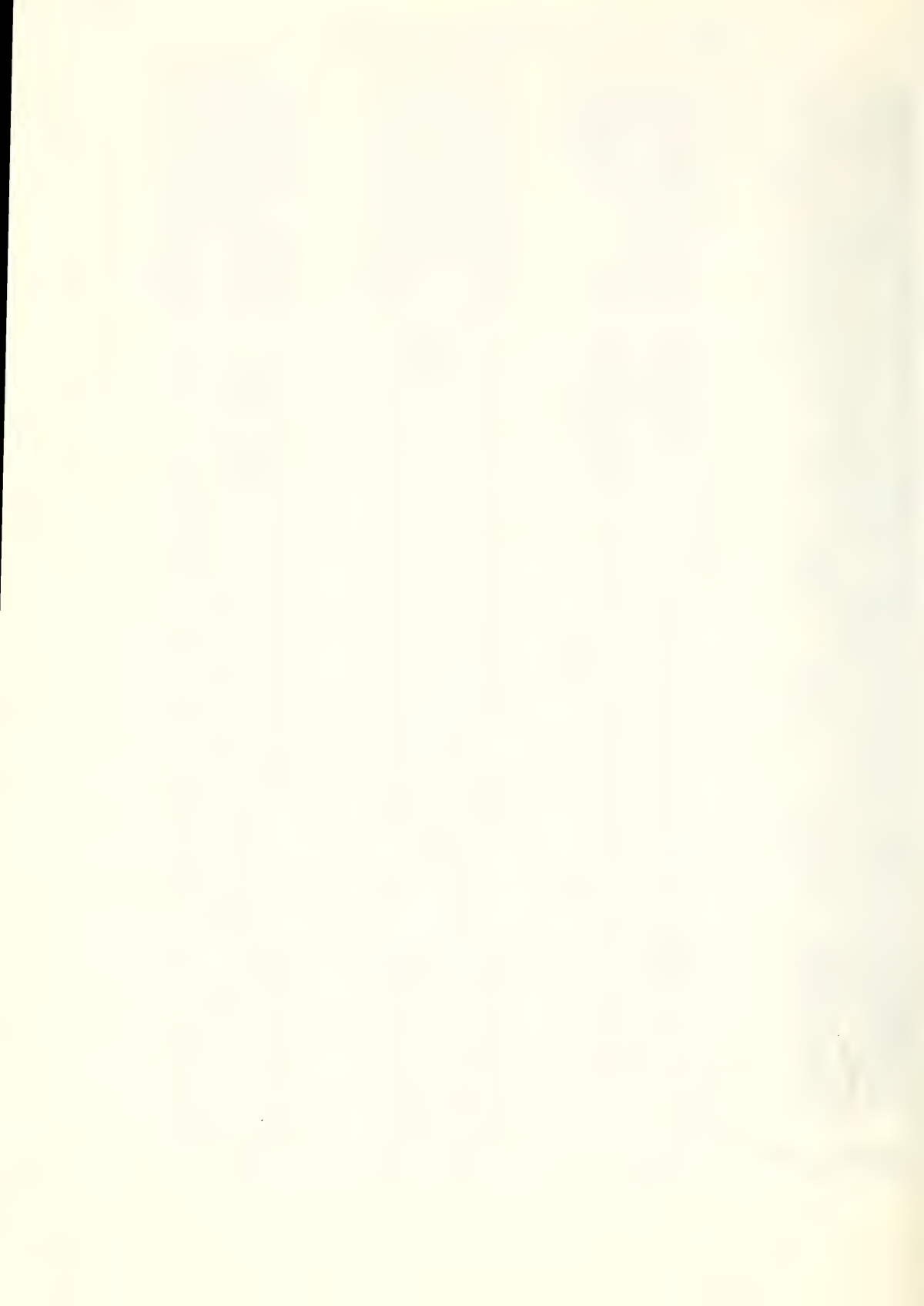
Nathan Althouse
William H. Arnold
Jacob R. Artz
Frank Althouse
William H. Bitting
Marvin C. Beck
Alvin Binkly
Daniel D. Brendel
Dyson S. Bradley
Irvin Bright
Howard H. Bitting
John H. Behn
William K. Brendel
Jesse M. Bander
George W. Bushman
Samuel M. Bitting
David C. Bohn
John G. Body
Harvey C. Boone
John T. Behler
Hiram W. M. Bickel
Cyrus U. Bensing
Richard S. Bitter
Cyrus K. Brendel
Jacob M. Bickel
Adam S. Body
Raymond F. Becker
John Bittug
Augustus M. Brown
Champion B. Bartron
Christian E. Collier
Benjamin F. Collier
Clair B. Cooper
Lemon Conrad
Frank B. Conrad
John K. Coldren
Walter F. Curley
James Coleman
Owen P. Deeds
Dr. L. V. Dillon
Charles M. Englert
John Eckert
William Eyrich
Frank H. Eshelman
John D. Erb
Daniel J. Erb
Isaac H. Eshelman
John H. Evans
William P. Fleisher
Nathan T. Fritz
Abraham S. Foltz
Bentley G. Foreman
Elmer E. Fair
Abraham Foltz
Christ S. Flickinger
Clinton F. Flickinger
Wallace C. Fritz
Daniel Fry
Harry Fitterling
Daniel S. Freeman
Thomas H. Fromm
David T. Field
John S. Farrell
Howard F. Folk
Henry B. Freese
John Fisher
Alvin J. Griffith
Fred A. Gehret
Thomas J. Goodman
Charles A. Goodman
Gottlieb Gouse
Harry G. Gouse
John A. Gaul
Walter M. Genger
Samuel J. Gerhard

Levi M. Grill
Howard F. Goodman
Daniel Hummel
Elmer J. Heinly
Carolina Hatt
Charles Himmelberger
William B. Hendel
Jesse Herncisen
George W. Hartman
Ezra Homan
Lester A. Hemmig
Jacob Hoffert
Howard L. Hartman
Zacharias H. Hornberger
William A. Hofiman
Pierce B. Hatt
Rev. C. S. Hanian
William A. Huyett
John J. Hoffert
Irvin B. Huyett
Charles Haag
William T. Hill
Walter G. Hill
Harry G. Hill
Adolph Jahn
John L. Knauer
William T. Keffer
Jacob T. Kline
Frank G. Keffer
Charles A. Klopp
James P. Kleinginni
Milton Kachel
Lewis A. Lehman
Jacob A. Leshner
John T. Lotz
Lester A. Lutz
Gordon Lutz
Washington Leinbach
George F. Lee
Almah S. Lutz
Levi H. Lausch
John Lessley
Harry Lausch
Walter H. Lantz
Vallie A. Matz
Evan Moyer
John H. Marks
Bentley Moore
John S. Miller
John M. Miller
Robert W. Moyer
Frank Moyer
Daniel H. Miller
Charles G. Miller
William H. Miller
Harvey C. Miller
Samuel S. Miller
Adam Miller
Frank P. Mohn
Charles S. Mohn
William M. Mohn
Chester A. Mohn
William H. Mohn
Katie Matz
Frank R. Myers
Chester A. Martin
Edwin P. Moyer
John Mahley
Harry R. Mahlschnce
Charles Matz
James W. Messner
William Manabeck
Reuben H. Nye
George Newkirk
Martin Ott

Tenants

Eugene H. G. Arnold
Jacob B. Artz

Edwin L. Artz
Irvin Artz



Joseph W. Oberholtzer
 Benjamin Putt
 Thomas Putt
 Harry Putt
 Charles Putt
 Daniel Pleam
 Claude W. Palm
 Richard H. Porter
 Franklin E. Phillips
 Herbert V. Ruth
 William H. Rollman
 Harry Reber
 Aldus K. Royer
 Samuel A. Richard
 John Rupp
 Charles Ritzman
 Wallace Reddig
 Mary Rollman
 Warren Reifsnyder
 Hiester Rhime
 Harry Rhime
 Augusta C. Rohland
 Howard C. Remp
 Edwin C. Rollman
 John Reiner
 Emlein K. Royer
 Wesley Rollman
 Elbina Sweitzer
 Albert C. Savage
 Francis Savage
 Alvin J. Savage
 John R. Schnabel
 Adolph Schwetke
 Harry C. Schaeffer
 Howard D. Sittler
 Levi H. Snyder

Isaac Schaeffer
 Charles J. Strause
 Edward Sweitzer
 John A. Spears
 Berton Schonour
 Pearson Schaeffer
 Morris S. Schaeffer
 Zenas W. Schonour
 Martin L. Steffy
 Irvin Savage
 John G. Stutzman
 Oliver Tilton
 Fred J. Thurrow
 B. F. S. White
 Thomas White
 Charles F. Wieder
 Frank Wieder
 Thomas Wieder
 William S. Willis
 Daniel I. Wentzel
 John G. Wentzel
 Evan J. Wentzel
 Charles W. Wentzel
 Harry W. Wertz
 John W. Wertz
 John Wertz, Sr.
 John Weiss
 Jeremiah F. Wanner
 Milton Wanner
 Francis S. Wolf
 William H. Watt
 James Wieder
 John White
 Elmer E. Yeager
 Charles Yoh
 William M. Zellers

Property-holders	225
Tenants	230
Total valuation	\$421,765

BUSINESS IN BOROUGH.—The borough contained in April, 1909, the following:

Stores	8	Hotel	1
Flower Houses	3	Machine Shop	1
Cigar Factories	2	Veterinarians	2
Churches	3	Shoemaker Shops	3
Hat Factory	1	Cemeteries	3
Grist-mill	1	Race Course	1
Butcher Shops	3	Barbers	3
Blacksmith Shops	3	Drug Store	1
Wheelwright Shop	1	School Building	1
Tinsmith Shop	1	Doctors	2

INDUSTRIES

Grist-Mill.—A grist-mill was established along the Lancaster road, near the Wyomissing creek, many years ago. It was converted into a planing-mill by John Waren, and then destroyed by fire. Jacob Shadel became the owner of the premises, including the water right, and he restored the building as a grist-mill.

Flower-Houses.—Howard M. Shilling established a hothouse for the raising of all kinds of flowers in 1880, and he has carried on the plant until now, excepting whilst enlisted in the Spanish War, when his wife attended to the business. He enlarged his plant and has now 17,000 feet under glass.

Harry A. Beyler started in 1898 and has five houses in use.

Luke Deeds started in 1905 and after carrying on the plant a year died, when his wife, Aaron Stein and A. J. Fink incorporated the business. They have seven houses.

Cigars.—Charles M. Yetter started manufacturing cigars at Mohnsville in 1889. After carrying on the business eight years he located at Shillington, where he erected a large three-story brick factory, and has carried on the business quite extensively since then, employing from eighty to ninety hands, manufacturing about 100,000 cigars weekly. The business was incorporated in 1905.

The members of the Cumru Cornet Band started manufacturing cigars at Shillington about 1890, and after carrying on the business several years the Kramer Brothers of Lancaster county (who were engaged in the leaf tobacco business) became their successors and have since carried on the business, employing from eight to ten hands.

Howard Gettis and Irvin Bright have been engaged separately for some years manufacturing cigars in a limited way.

Planing Mill.—David Becker established a small planing-mill at Edison in 1898 and has since done various kinds of planing-mill work by himself.

Bakery.—Charles Strauss began a bakery business in 1901 and has since carried on an increasing business with several hands to assist him.

Scenic Painter.—Dyson Bradley and Clinton Shilling erected a large frame building in 1897 on the premises of George W. Shilling for the purpose of painting theatrical scenery and have since carried on the business successfully. Mr. Shilling has also shown considerable skill as a cartoonist on political and other subjects.

Hosiery.—Martin Fritz began the manufacturing of hosiery at Shillington in 1901 and has since carried on the business successfully, making men's half-hose, employing fifty hands.

Telephone.—The Ephrata Telephone Company established a telephone exchange at Shillington in 1908.

CHURCHES.—Members of the Reformed and Lutheran denominations associated together in 1874 and erected a brick church, but after remaining together three years, occupying the building alternately, the Lutherans withdrew. The Reformed congregation, under the name of Immanuel, have continued there until the present time. The edifice was rebuilt in 1903. Rev. W. J. Kershner has been the pastor since 1886.

Grace Lutheran congregation erected a brick church in 1902 and have kept up the organization until now.

Members of the United Evangelical faith, under the name of St. Luke's, erected a fine sandstone church in 1904 and have since been worshipping there.



CEMETERIES.—Three cemeteries have been established along the southern border of Shillington: The Fairview, in 1856, for members of the Protestant denominations in the vicinity; Mt. Sinai, in 1897, for the Reformed Jews at Reading who had maintained a small cemetery along South street for upward of fifty years; and the Russian and other Orthodox Jews several years afterward, having secured the land from Jacob Lash.

GRADED SCHOOL.—The Cumru school board erected a fine two-story brick building in 1901, and upon the erection of the borough it became the property of Shillington.

POORHOUSE.—The Poorhouse of the county adjoins the borough. It was established there by

the county authorities in 1825, and has been maintained since then at the public expense.

MILLER MONUMENT.—In the center of the street leading to Mohnton, near the southerly line of the borough, a unique monument was erected in 1900 by the grandchildren of Christian Miller, who had for many years owned the farming land in that vicinity, and when he died his remains were interred in a private burying-ground on the farm adjoining the public road. It is a large dark granite stone about six feet high and is surrounded by a stone wall inclosing a lot about twenty feet square. The inscription on the stone reads thus: "In Memory of Christian Miller, Family and Friends."

CHAPTER XII—TOWNSHIPS

The Schuylkill river divides the county of Berks into two nearly equal divisions of territory, the eastern containing about 280,000 acres and the western about 246,000 acres, together 526,000 acres, or 822 square miles.

FOUR SECTIONS.—The eastern division can be divided into two sections by an irregular line extended eastwardly from the Great Bend of the river, along the upper boundary lines of Muhlenberg, Ruscombmanor, Rockland, District and Hereford townships, to Lehigh county. The southern section embraces about 133,000 acres, and the northern about 147,000 acres. Each section was identified from the earliest settlements by conspicuous streams of water, the southern section having come to be generally known by the name of *Manatawney*, and the northern section by *Ontelaunee*. Both these words are of Indian origin. The Indians having first possessed the entire territory, their names naturally became attached to it. These streams extend northwardly through the respective sections and drain the greater part of the territory.

The western division can be similarly divided, for a natural boundary line divides it also into two sections. It extends from the outlet of the Tulpehocken at the Schuylkill river along the northern and western boundary lines of Spring township to Lancaster county, and is formed by the creek named and its first tributary, the Cacoosing. The upper section was called *Tulpehocken* by the first settlers, a word also of Indian origin. This creek extends westwardly and northwardly, then again westwardly and drains the section almost entirely. And the lower section was called *Schuylkill*, from its connection with a large district of territory in Chester county which was known by this name. This latter section has two prominent creeks which are known by Indian names, Wyomissing and Allegheny, but neither of them was large enough to give identity to the entire section. The upper

section embraces about 130,000 acres, and the lower about 116,000 acres.

ERECTION OF TOWNSHIPS.—The townships established in the county number altogether forty-three. In the descriptions of the respective Sections in this chapter they have been arranged to show the original townships at the erection of the county and the time when settled and established; and the additional townships established since 1752, and from which districts they were taken. This arrangement has been adopted for convenience of reference, as well as to avoid much repetition in description.

The names of the first taxpayers have been given in Chapter I, relating to the erection of the county; but the names of the taxpayers of the townships subsequently established, before 1800, have also been included in this Chapter, in connection with the Section where situated.

DEVELOPMENT.—When the county was erected in 1752, there were twenty-three townships—eighteen regularly established and five commonly recognized; and one town, Reading, the only place where a considerable number of dwellings had collected. Prominent highways extended from Reading through the several sections to the extreme limits of the county in eight different directions, to enable the taxpayers to visit the county-seat conveniently for the transaction of business relating to their own personal affairs and to affairs connected with the government of the county. As time advanced, decade after decade, intersecting highways were laid out; new townships and boroughs organized; post-offices established; newspapers issued; turnpikes, canals and railroads constructed; manufactures of all kinds encouraged; and numerous schools and churches erected. Now, after the lapse of one hundred and fifty-seven years, there are sixty-one political divisions, comprising one city, seventeen boroughs and forty-three townships, with a population of about 175,000, and a total valuation of property exceeding \$100,000,000.

And fifty towns are scattered throughout the county, each of whose population exceeds one hundred.

GOVERNMENT.—The townships are under the general government of the county. For local affairs, they have a government of their own, the elected officers being two justices of the peace, a constable, six school directors, an assessor, three supervisors of roads, and three auditors. Their government is government in the simplest form and it is practically the unit of government. It is thoroughly democratic. There are only two purposes which it serves, the maintenance of roads and schools, and without these there would be no necessity for its existence. Being so simple, it is not seen or felt until the payment of taxes for road and school purposes is demanded. The taxpayers thus take a direct interest in their local government and are closely connected with it. But the higher the government advances, as into a borough, city, county, State, or nation, the farther they become removed from it, and their connection is necessarily only by representation. It is apparent that the township is the beginning of our system of free government, just as the nation is the end of it. The aggregation of townships compose our county; of counties our State; and of States our nation.

RAILWAY AND TELEGRAPH.—Besides the public thoroughfares for teams, the county is also well supplied with prominent railways which run generally parallel with them; the Philadelphia & Reading, and the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley, along either side of the river Schuylkill, from the southern extremity to the northern; the Lebanon Valley to the west, the East Penn to the northeast, the Schuylkill and Lehigh to the north, the Reading & Columbia to the southwest, and the Wilmington & Northern to the south—all of these five from Reading; and the Colebrookdale, to the north, from Pottstown to Barto, through the eastern portion. The eight railroads cover a total length of one hundred and fifty miles.

The street-car lines were confined to Reading from 1874 to 1890. Then electricity was introduced for propelling the cars, and trolley lines began to extend from Reading into the surrounding country; first, southeast to Exeter township, and southwest to Mohlsville (now Mohnton); then west to Womelsdorf, and east to Boyertown, and north to Temple; and then the line to Mohlsville was extended to Adamstown and Lancaster; the line to Temple, to Kutztown and Allentown; and the line to Exeter, to Birdsboro; thus reaching out in every direction, excepting to the north to Hamburg and to the northwest to Bernville and Milersburg, and covering a total distance of seventy-five miles in the county.

The introduction of electricity as the motive power was the direct cause of these extensions. Horses were the motive power for sixteen years from the time that street railways were introduced

at Reading. Before 1890, the extensions of the system into the rural districts for ten and twenty miles were not encouraged because of the cost and impracticability of running them; but by that time the feasibility of introducing electricity became more apparent and then the extensions began to reach out in the several directions from Reading as mentioned.

And just as connections were made for travel by railways, communication was opened to all parts of the county by telegraph and telephone, the former having started in 1848 and the latter in 1879. Through these channels, the energy of steam and electricity is displayed in a wonderful manner; and when we come to compare the methods and customs of the first settlers in respect to transportation and communication with the facilities and conveniences which we now have, we cannot help but be amazed at our social progress as a community. But another feature of this social progress, equally surprising, is the fact that so few persons were actually engaged in devising and creating the agencies by which this progress was accomplished.

The roads and railroads, and also the telegraph and telephone, have been referred to more fully in Chapter II.

INDUSTRIAL SITUATION.—In respect to the farming operations, there has been a gradual diminution in the past twenty years, and the condition of the farmers has been generally more or less depressed. All the numerous furnaces and forges, with a few notable exceptions, have been abandoned. The number of grist-mills in all the sections has been greatly reduced, and most of them have been converted into chopping-mills, if not altogether discontinued. In many places, creameries have been substituted; and where heretofore great quantities of flour were ground from wheat and rye raised in the vicinity, now great quantities of fine butter are being manufactured and shipped to large centers of population; or many thousands of gallons of milk are delivered at railroad stations and forwarded to Philadelphia and other places.

RELIGION AND EDUCATION.—The religious sentiment of the people has remained about the same. At a number of places throughout the county, fine new churches or chapels were erected, reflecting the earnest spirit of the several denominations, and the two most prominent denominations, Lutheran and Reformed, have been particularly active and successful. As to the common school system, fine, graded schools were established, but the tendency has been to lessen the number of buildings in some of the townships on account of the decrease of population; and where certain children became too far removed from school-houses in consequence of the abandonment of some of the buildings, the local directors made provision for conveying them to and from school, if not able to get there by themselves.

TOWNS.—In the county there are one hundred and three towns and villages, and the names of the greater number have been given after individuals. They are distributed in the several sections as follows:

Manatawny	42	Tulpehocken	18
Ontelaunee	27	Schuylkill	16

Their names are given in connection with the sections. The figures opposite the names indicate the number of dwellings, and the population can be estimated by multiplying these figures by four. The figures adjoining the names indicate the year when the town was started. Fifty of the towns have over one hundred inhabitants.

STATISTICS.—Statistics relating to population, property, taxables, voters, etc., of the several townships will be found in the tables which embrace the entire county, in Chapter IX, Census.

MERCANTILE LICENSES.—The mercantile appraiser reported the number of licensed retail business places in the several townships of the county for the year 1909 as follows:

Albany	24	Marion	16
Alsace	4	Manatawny	27
Alsace, Lower	14	Muhlenberg	32
Amity	29	Oley	37
Bern	18	Ontelaunee	13
Bern, Upper	18	Penn	17
Bethel	27	Perry	24
Brecknock	10	Pike	16
Caernarvon	19	Richmond	17
Centre	24	Robeson	28
Colebrookdale	15	Rockland	14
Cumru	33	Ruscombmanor	13
District	8	Spring	45
Douglass	15	Tilden	9
Earl	2	Tulpehocken	28
Exeter	34	Tulpehocken, Upper	15
Greenwich	26	Union	16
Heidelberg	20	Washington	32
Heidelberg, Lower	40	Windsor	6
Heidelberg, North	8		
Hereford	25		894
Jefferson	9	Boroughs	491
Longswamp	31	Reading	1,546
Maiden-creek	32		
		Total	2,931

LIQUOR LICENSES IN TOWNSHIPS FOR 1909

Albany	4	Jefferson	2
Alsace	3	Longswamp	9
Alsace, Lower	7	Maiden-creek	4
Amity	5	Manatawny	10
Bern	4	Marion	3
Bern, Upper	2	Muhlenberg	9
Brecknock	1	Oley	4
Bethel	7	Ontelaunee	5
Caernarvon	2	Penn	4
Cumru	9	Perry	3
Centre	2	Pike	3
Colebrookdale	2	Rockland	2
District	2	Richmond	7
Douglass	3	Robeson	6
Earl	2	Ruscombmanor	3
Exeter	11	Spring	7
Greenwich	4	Tilden	2
Heidelberg	4	Tulpehocken	4
Heidelberg, North	1	Tulpehocken, Upper	3
Heidelberg, Lower	10	Union	1
Hereford	4		

Washington	7	In Boroughs	49
Windsor	1	In City of Reading	174
	191	Total	414

P. O. S. OF A. CAMPS.—The Patriotic Order Sons of America has established camps at the following places in the county, outside of the city and the boroughs:

No.	Place	Members	Assets
68	Hyde Park	316	\$ 9,172
69	Mt. Aetna	77	4,369
99	Wernersville	186	7,818
107	Temple	110	831
128	Grinville	35	915
133	Shartlesville	161	8,075
141	Manatawny	55	1,193
165	Leesport	242	8,150
213	Amityville	71	5,275
214	Millersburg	130	6,592
221	Lime Kiln	262	12,653
230	St. Lawrence	249	28,319
237	Stouchsburg	296	8,277
240	Douglassville	60	2,015
250	Blandon	88	7,196
278	Virginiaville	95	2,998
282	Sinking Spring	198	9,750
347	Henningsville	65	821
375	Robeson	115	3,508
388	Geigertown	72	2,563
399	Eagenstose	56	1,471
427	Molltown	36	762
470	Siesholtzville	52	1,504
480	Pleasantville	117	2,441
592	Gibraltar	146	6,965
597	Rehrersburg	52	1,905
664	Straus-town	96	1,563
679	Morgantown	71	1,046
		3,419	\$148,152
	Reading	2,835	112,398
	Boroughs	2,115	81,451
	Total	9,369	343,001

P. O. S. of A. Halls.—Camps in the county which own their respective halls where the meetings are held:

Bechtelsville	Lenhartsville
Oley Line	Shartlesville
St. Lawrence	Gibraltar
Hyde Park	

MANATAWNY SECTION

The Manatawny Section comprises fifteen townships, and the time of their settlement and erection is set forth in the following table.

ORIGINAL

	Settled	Erected
Alsace	1735	1744
Amity	1701	1719
Colebrookdale	1720	1741
Douglass	1720	1736
Exeter	1718	1741
Hereford	1732	1753
Oley	1712	1740
Ruscombmanor	1749	1752

	ADDITIONAL Taken from	Erected
Rockland	Oley	1758
District	Oley	1759
Earl	Oley	1781
Pike	Oley	1812
Washington	Colebrookdale	
	and Hereford	1839
Muhlenberg	Alsace	1851
Alsace, Lower	Alsace	1888

DERIVATION OF NAMES.—The derivation of the names was as follows:

Alsace, from the name of the principality in Germany whence the first settlers had emigrated on account of long continued religious intolerance and persecution.

Amity, from the friendliness of the Indians with the Swedes, the first settlers who had been induced to locate here by the persuasion of William Penn.

Colebrookdale, from a district of territory in England, called Colebrook, whence some of the first settlers had emigrated. They were Englishmen, familiar with the manufacture of iron, and the early discovery of iron ore in this region led to the taking up of grants of land here and to its settlement and improvement by them. The first iron furnace was established here about 1717 along the Ironstone creek, a tributary of the Manatawny (the locality being now within the southern portion of Boyertown); and the first forge was established several miles to the southwest along the Manatawny at the same time, the selection of the place having been made on account of the strong flow of water for power to carry on the process of forging.



DANIEL BOONE'S BIRTHPLACE

Douglass, from a distinguished name in the annals of Scotland, and supposed to have been suggested to the court at Philadelphia by the petitioners.

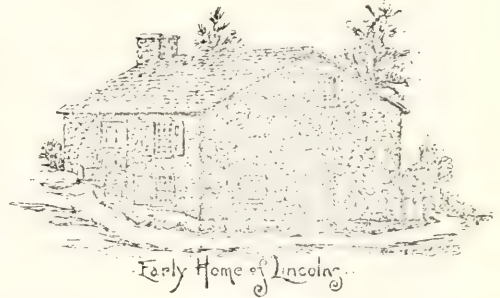
Exeter, from the name of a district in England, whence the first settlers emigrated. They were influential Friends, named Boone, Ellis, Hughes, Lincoln and Webb.

Hereford, from the name of a district also in England. The first settlers were almost entirely

German, but the name was doubtless suggested by English ironmasters who were interested in the territory.

Oley, commonly supposed to have originated from an Indian word, Olink, meaning a hollow, the principal portion of land being rich and productive, almost surrounded by hills; but it may have been taken from Oleye, the name of a community in Waremmé, a province in Belgium, and some of the early settlers may have emigrated from that vicinity.

Ruscombmanor, from the name of a district, Ruscomb, in Wales. The Penns, in 1739, had directed 10,000 acres in this vicinity to be set apart for their use, and this having been done, the land was called "Manor of Ruscomb."



Rockland, from the character of the land, many large rocks having been found here; which are still standing like great monuments undisturbed. They are very hard granite, and therefore capable of resisting the "tooth of time."

District, from the locality of the land as lying between Oley and Colebrookdale, by way of description.

Earl, from a title of nobility. For a number of years before 1781, District was called "East District," and Earl "West District," designated by the county commissioners to facilitate the assessment of real property.

Pike, from the name of a species of fish which abounded in the local streams before 1812.

Washington, from the name of General George Washington, out of respect to the memory of the first President of the United States.

Muhlenberg, from the name of the family which owned a large area of land in the proposed township at the time of its erection.

Alsace, Lower, from the locality, as distinguishable from the remaining or upper portion of the original township.

BOROUGH.—The following boroughs have been established in this section:

Boyertown, in 1851.
Bechtelsville, in 1890.
Mt. Penn, in 1902.



Waterworks and electric lighting have been supplied at the first and last; but pumps and springs and oil lamps are still used at the second.

Towns.—The following towns are situated in this section:

Name	Houses	Name	Houses
Amityville ¹ (1782)	16	Lorane ⁴ (1828)	20
Bally ² (1800)	5	Monacaey Station (1870)	12
Barto (1809)	19	Morysville (1820)	25
Baumtown (1790)	69	New Berlinville (1820)	27
Black Bear (1810)	20	New Jerusalem (1828)	20
Douglasville (1820)	20	Oly Line (1870)	7
Dryville (1852)	12	Pikaville (1831)	20
Engelsville (1850)	45	Pleasantville (1850)	14
Eshbach (1808)	15	Pricetown (1780)	52
Friedensburg (1831)	14	Schultzville (1822)	7
Frush Valley (1808)	52	Shanesville (1867)	16
Gablesville (1850)	12	Siesholtzville (1849)	5
Glendale (1871)	30	St. Lawrence (1856)	80
Greshville (1850)	5	Stonetown	10
Herefordville (1800)	15	Stonerville (1847)	14
Hart's Church (1814)	15	Strong Creek Mills (1864)	45
Hyde Park (1850)	130	Temple (1857)	126
Jack-on-vail (1850)	10	Treichersville (1830)	16
Junction ³ (1870)	15	Fuckenton (1812)	47
Little Oley (1871)	30	Weavertown (1775)	23
Lobachsville (1851)	7	Yellow House (1800)	10



ROCKS OF ROCKLAND

FIRST SETTLERS.—The first settlement in this section was made by a small colony of Swedes in 1701 along the Schuylkill river, four miles above the outlet of the Manatawny creek, in the vicinity of where Douglasville is now situated. They took up large tracts of land, which extended from the river northward for five miles. Some of their descendants are still there, notably the Joneses, Ludwigs, and Yocombs.

The second settlement was made in the central portion by Huguenots, English, and Germans, from 1712 to 1730, who also took up large tracts and then extended their movements to the north, even to the Blue Mountain, and to the west toward Reading. Many of their descendants are still in the vicinity; and in several instances (Bertolets, Boones, Detureks and Lees) the land has been transmitted in a direct line of descendants of the first settlers, from generation to generation, from the beginning until now, a period covering one hundred and eighty years.

And the third settlement was made in the portion along what is now the eastern line of the county and within several miles of it, by English and Germans, for a distance of fifteen miles; and here, too,

¹Formerly New Storeville. ²Churchville. ³Towersville. ⁴Exeter Station.

there are many of the first settlers, notably the Bauers, Bechtels, Livingoods, Rhoadses, Stauffers and Schultzes.

The hilly country of Earl township is the habitation of more old residents than any other district in the county. To the pure fresh air and most excellent water the old residents attribute their longevity. This township was the birthplace and home of Betzy Trout, who lived to be 101 years old. In the spring of 1909 the following were among the oldest residents in the township: Matilda (Weller) Motz, aged 87; Aaron Weller, 86; Henry Clauser, 86; Philip Haring, 85; Joseph Heckman, 85; Ezra Hartline, 84; Isaac Heydt, 84; Charles Clauser, 83; Mary Mathias, 83; Jonathan Swavely, 82, and wife, Emmeline (Shollenberger) Swavely, 77; William Dilliplane, 80, and wife, Sarah (Clauser) Dilliplane, 79; Catharine (Swavely) Mathias, 80; Mary (Focit) Clauser, 78; Samuel Rhoads, 78; Jacob Rhoads, 76, and wife, 73; David M. Mathias, 76; Simon Clauser, 73; William Reichart, 73; Hannah (Mathias) Clauser, 73; Ephraim Weidner, 73.

Among the old residents immediately outside of Earl township in the county are: Adam Levengood, 95; Abraham Elbst, 93; Jacob Bechtel, 88; Levi Hess, 86; Godlieb Falkenstein, 82.

INDUSTRIAL PROMINENCE.—This section was particularly active for over an hundred years in the successful operation of numerous large industries for the manufacture of iron, every township having had one or more furnaces or forges; but shortly after the close of the Civil war, and more especially before 1880, they passed away like the dying twilight of evening. It may well be asked, "What was the cause, or what were the causes, of this great change?" Iron industries at comparatively few populous centers have, since 1880, developed extraordinary capacities whose annual production runs into thousands of tons, whereas the earliest industries together produced only limited quantities; and the general prosperity of the State and nation (1909), as evidenced by congested railroads and overflowing banks, surpasses everything heretofore known or experienced in industrial affairs. And yet these great centers, with all their success, wealth and power, are apparently as helpless in directing and controlling political policies and municipal matters as the depopulating centers in the townships, with exterminated plants of various kinds (furnaces, forges and grist-mills), are in improving their environment, social as well as financial!

Various and opposing causes are assigned for the peculiar and inexplicable, if not inextricable, condition; but the one great overshadowing cause is the manipulation of the ramifying railway systems in the interest of stock speculation for the enrichment of managing financiers.

The three other sections were similarly situated as to iron industries and grist-mills, though the numbers were not so large; and they, too, became similarly affected.

Iron Ore Mines.—In Colebrookdale township (now within the limit of Boyertown), the mining of iron ore was started at the very beginning of the settlements in connection with the manufacture of iron, and operations have been carried on there until now. The main shaft of the mine has been sunk to a depth of seven hundred feet. The deposit is inexhaustible notwithstanding the removal of many hundred thousand tons.

Operations were carried on also at Barto for fifty years, and for half of this period quite extensively. The shaft was sunk to a depth of five hundred feet. The mine was abandoned about 1900. The ore was rich in character and many thousands of tons were removed.

HIGHWAYS.—Numerous roads have been laid out in this section and consequently each township is well supplied. The most prominent are the following: Four from Reading, to Boyertown, seventeen miles; to Friedensburg, nine miles; to Pricetown, nine miles; and to Kutztown via Temple, seventeen miles. One from Douglassville, via Amityville and Pleasantville, to Kutztown, with a branch at Yellow House, via Friedensburg to Pricetown and Blandon. And one from Boyertown via Barto to Alburtis in Lehigh county.

Four turnpikes were constructed in the section: the Perkiomen, from the southern county line, via Douglassville and Baumstown, to Reading; the Douglassville, from Douglassville, via Amityville, to Yellow House; the Oley, from Pikeville, via Pleasantville and Oley Line, to Black Bear; and the Centre, from Reading to Tuckerton, which extended northwardly through Ontelaunee Section, via Leesport and Hamburg, beyond the county line to Pottsville and Sunbury. The Centre turnpike was abandoned as a toll-road in 1885; the Douglassville in 1898; and the Perkiomen in 1902.

ADDITIONAL TAXABLES.—The names of the first taxables of the several townships at the erection of the county are given in Chapter I; but the names of those in Douglass, Rockland and District are given in this connection because the townships were subsequently established. Previously, the taxables within their limits had been included with Amity and Oley. They are given to show the place in the section where the earliest settlers were located.

DOUGLASS

First list of taxables, prepared in 1756

Christian Bender	Andrew Huling
James Burns	Christian Kasebeer, Sr.
Samuel Buzzard	Michael Kaspotz
Derick Clever	Valentine Kedy
John Clous	William Keepers
Michael Cougler	John Keffner
Christian Conrad	Peter Levingood
Jacob Davidhiser	Adam Miller
Valentine Focht	Andrew Miller
George Fritz	Jacob Nagle
George Geisinger	Yoakam Nagle
George Hanselman	Martin Nahr
Philip Hapelbaker	Philip Parthauer
Leonard Horsecr	John Potts, Jr.
Michael Hoffman	Nicholas Reem

Andrew Ringberry
Simon Ringberry
George Shadler
Christian Shadler
Peter Shetter
Henry Shonberger
John Slice

Hieronimus Spies
Philip Walter, Sr.
Frederick Wambach
Christian Wigle
Daniel Wills, Sr.
Peter Yoakam

ROCKLAND

First list of taxables, prepared in 1758

John Albrecht	Jacob Keim
George Angstadt	Michael Keim
John Angstadt	Michael Kerber
Peter Anst	Simon Kerber
Conrad Bair	Peter Kieffer
Mathias Beck	Peter Klassmoyer
Nicholas Benninger	Michael Klein
Lorentz Berig	Christian Kobb
Philip Berminger	Jacob Krebs
Charles Bernhard	Andreas Krett
Casper Bicking	Peter Lobach
Peter Breifogel	Henry Long
Ludwig Bitting	Ludwig Long
Nicholas Blatner	Michael Long
Jacob Boger	Nicholas Long
Jacob Boral	Peter Luder
John Bot	Henry Mertz
William Bot	Henry Mertz
Ludwig Brem	John Moll
Nicholas Clementz	Nicholas Moyer
William Dabitsch	George Oberdorff
Nicholas Debb	Casper Rap
Henry D-Long	George Reif
Melchoir Donner	Frederick Reish
Michael Dressler	Peter Reiner
Jacob Drog	Conrad Roth
Deobald Drummheller	Ludwig Rouzanner
John Eck	Peter Ruff, Jr.
Jacob Ellinger	Peter Ruff, Sr.
Herman Emrich	Casper Rubbert
Peter Ernst	Frederick Schackler
George Fleck	George Scheffer
Peter Folck	Michael Scheffer
William Folck	John Schenker
George Heiner	Christian Schumacher
Jacob Heiner	George Schumacher
Christian Henry	George Seibert (Seawert)
Frederick Hersch	Henry Showash
George Hoffman	Frederick Ubrick
Jacob Hoffman	Adam Wagner
Michael Jacobi	Adam Wecht
Nicholas Jacobi	Jacob Ziegemeiss

DISTRICT

First list of taxables prepared in 1756

Conrad Arnold	Jacob Hard
Jeremiah Baron	Peter Hardman
Thomas Banfield	George Harlein
John Barns	Michael Hartman
Jacob Bernhard	Paul Hartman
Christian Brensinger	Lorentz Hauck
George Brown	Stephen Hauck
Israel Burget	Jacob Herb
Jacob Bush	Jacob Hill
John Colron	Michael Hoffman
Joshua De La Plain	John Kabron
Henry Dener	Conrad Keim
George Dotterer	Adam Kildan
Nicholas East	George Klausner
Daniel Eyst	George Koutz
John Fare	Michael Klein
Jacob Frey	Nicholas Koutz
Jacob Fridge (Fretts)	George Lantz
Bernhard Gembling	Henry Machanet
Jacob Gross	William Mackey
Andreas Hacker	Tobias Manck
George Haltzshoe	Frederick Martin

Dietrich Mathias
Jacob Mathias
S. Mayberry
Frederick Mayer
John Miller
Peter Miller
William Miller
John Montzer
Frantz Moser
Andreas Notgang
George Oyster
Samuel Oyster
Frederick Pons
Michael Radecher
John Reidenauer
Jacob Roth
Valentine Schaeffer
George Schall

Nicholas Schlister
Christopher Schoek
Henry Schoerham
Michael Sehnlinmacher
Jacob Schweitzer
Laurence Sheeler, Jr.
Laurence Sheeler, Sr.
Jacob Steinbrenner
George Stevenson
William Stork
George Trust
Adam Ulrich
Jacob Walter
George Adam Weidner
Charles Weiss
Philip Weismiller
Casper Weisner
Peter Weller

NOTEWORTHY ENTERPRISES

FRIEDENSBURG BANK.—The First National Bank of Oley was chartered April 27, 1907, with a capital of \$25,000, and located at Friedensburg. Israel M. Bertolet was selected as president and Sydney J. Hartman as cashier. In November, 1908, the total resources were \$141,277.

READING WATER SUPPLIES.—The Egelman supply, appropriated in 1838, and the Antietam supply, in 1874, both from Lower Alsace; and the Bernhart supply, in 1858, from Muhlenberg. The first filtration plant was established at the Egelman reservoir in 1904, with a capacity of 500,000 gallons daily; the second plant in East Reading, in 1905, with a capacity of 3,500,000 gallons daily; and the third plant at the Bernhart reservoir in 1909, with a capacity of 3,000,000 gallons daily.

MOUNTAIN RAILROADS.—Mt. Penn Gravity railroad was constructed on Penn Mountain in 1890, length eight miles; and the Neversink, in 1890, length eight miles; both in Lower Alsace. They have had increasing success for the past ten years, thereby popularizing Reading very much.

CARSONIA PARK, established by the United Traction Company in Lower Alsace in 1896, embracing 150 acres. It has become a popular resort, there having been 250,000 visitors during the season of 1908.

BRUMBACH MILLS, established in 1853 in Exeter by William Brumbach for manufacture of woolen goods, and operated, since 1862, by his son Albert J., who rebuilt and enlarged the plant.

STONY CREEK MILLS, established in 1864 in Lower Alsace by Louis Kraemer & Co., for manufacture of woolen goods, and operated successfully since then.

TEMPLE FURNACE, established in Muhlenberg in 1867 by Clymer & Co. In 1873, the company secured a special charter. In 1900 it was re-organized with a capital of \$20,000,000 for the purpose of operating anthracite coal mines. On account of its extraordinary powers it occupies great prominence in financial and industrial circles. The furnace produces 40,000 tons of pig metal annually.

SEIDEL FORGE, established in Exeter in 1870 by John Hennon. In 1872, Harry Seidel purchased the

plant and has carried on operations since then. It produces forged iron for locomotive engines.

BROOKE FURNACE, No. 3, established in Exeter along the P. & R. R. by the E. & G. Brooke Iron Company in 1872. Annual product, 21,000 tons. Carried on with the Birdsboro works.

NEVERSINK DISTILLERY, established by John H. Close and A. H. Kretz at Exeter Station (Lorane) in 1892. Plant was enlarged in 1899 by Neversink Distilling Company. Mashing capacity, 434 bushels.

THE MUHLENBERG BREWING COMPANY was organized in 1895 and a large plant was erected along the Kutztown road in the southern end of Hyde Park, with annual production exceeding 10,000 barrels. Simson Becker served as president of the company for fourteen years.

COLEBROOKDALE IRON WORKS, established in Douglass by Brendlinger & Co., in 1867. Thirty years before, W. W. Weaver had started a foundry and tilt-hammer for the manufacture of wood-burning stoves. The works were enlarged several times. They produced sad-irons, kettles, fixtures, etc.

RAILROADS.—The *Reading Railway* was constructed in this section in 1837-38 from Reading to the Montgomery county line along the Schuylkill river, a distance of fourteen miles; and the *Colebrookdale Railroad* in 1869 from the county line via Boyertown northwardly to Barto, a distance of eleven miles.

Street Railway.—The trolley line to Stony Creek was constructed in 1890, and extended to Boyertown, via Oley Line, Friedensburg and Shanesville, in 1902.

STATE ROADS.—A section of State Road was put down from Barto to Bally, two miles, and thence to Schultz's Mill, two miles, in 1907 and 1908, being the second in Berks county and the first in this section. And another section was put down from a point near the Exeter meeting-house to Amityville, four miles in length, in 1908, which was the third in the county.

COLEBROOKDALE MINES.—Iron ore was discovered in Colebrookdale, now within the southern portion of Boyertown, as early as 1720, but it was not worked extensively until about 1815. In 1851 the first engine was put there by the Phoenix Iron Company to lift the ore, and from that time until now the mines have been in almost continuous operation. During this period of fifty years, it is believed that fully 800,000 tons were removed. It is one of the best equipped underground plants in the country; and next to the great "Cornwall," near Lebanon, it is the largest mine opened in Pennsylvania. There are four fire-proof shafts in operation: Phoenix slope, 500 feet deep; Warwick four-compartment shaft, 720 feet; Gable No. 2, four-compartment shaft, 665 feet; and Gable No. 1, three-compartment shaft, 515 feet. The character of the ore is "Bessemer Magnetic," yielding 55 to 56 per cent of metallic iron. On account of the great depth of the shafts, enormous quantities of water must be

pumped out; for which purpose four large pumps were put there at great expense.

Prospecting for Ore.—In 1907 certain persons from Philadelphia organized the Berks Development Company for prospecting for iron ore in the eastern portion of the county. They secured mineral rights on different tracts of land in Earl township in the vicinity of Shanesville, aggregating fifteen hundred acres, and have discovered considerable quantities of ore. They sank a number of shafts and found the best grade of magnetic ore. The general superintendent of the company is Jacob Schupp, of Reading. They employ twenty-four men. Aside from agriculture this is the only industry in the township. The company has its office in Philadelphia. Similar companies are being organized to secure such rights in District, Hereford and Longswamp townships, where large quantities of iron ore are also supposed to exist.

OIL PUMPING STATION, established at Barto in October, 1908, on tract of land covering twenty acres, for propelling oil along pipe-line.

MANATAWNY IRON WORKS, established along the Colebrookdale railroad in 1882 to take the place of the Pine Iron Works on the Manatawny creek, where the Bailey family had been prominently identified with the iron business for nearly forty years. The site of the "Pool Forges," started about 1730, was near the latter.

ST. MICHAEL'S SEMINARY was founded by direction of the last will of Henry F. Felix at Hyde Park, in Muhlenberg township, in 1891, for the education of young ladies by the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of West Chester, Pa., they having secured fifty acres of ground and erected a superior building for that purpose.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE.—The long distance telephone exchange of the Pennsylvania Telephone Company, is situated at the cross-roads on the Kutztown road, at the upper end of Hyde Park in Muhlenberg township, about three miles north of Reading. It was established in the "Centre Hotel" in December, 1889; the first building was erected August, 1896; and a brick fire-proof two-story building was substituted Jan. 1, 1905, with latest switch-board improvements. Annual messages outward from Reading, about 30,000; inward to Reading, 35,000.

FAIR GROUND, established in Muhlenberg township along northern city line in 1888, with area of twenty-four acres, at an expense of \$10,000; for annual exhibitions of the Agricultural Society, in place of the Fair Ground at the head of Penn street, Reading, where they had been held for thirty years.

SUBURBAN TOWNS.—Edward A. Larter and Sigmond Morris purchased 120 acres of land in Muhlenberg township, along the Kutztown road, beyond Hyde Park, and laid off eighty acres in 1903, and forty acres in 1907, comprising altogether 1,200 lots, which they named Rose Dale. The plan ex-

tends from the road eastward beyond the East Penn railroad. Up to June, 1909, 1,100 lots were sold, forty dwellings erected, and also a public school-house and Union Chapel.

They also laid off forty-two acres of land in Lower Alsace, east of Carsonia Park, into lots (400), which they named Melrose. They had sold by June, 1909, upward of 300 of them. Several dwellings have been erected there.

CHAPEL ROCK, a remarkable collection of rocks, in Alsace township, two miles north of Antietam Reservoir, exceeding any other natural wonder in the county; visited by many pedestrians from Reading in all seasons of the year.

OLDEST BUILDINGS.—The oldest buildings in the county are in this section. The Mounce Jones building was erected in 1716, in Amity, near Douglassville, along the Schuylkill, and it is still standing, though somewhat altered.

A Moravian church was erected in Oley in 1742 and this also is still standing. The walls and windows are as they were then; but the roof has been removed and the interior altered.

Dwelling-house on the eastern half of the Ber-tolet farm in Oley, erected in 1754.

ONTELAUNEE SECTION

The Ontelaunee Section comprises nine townships, and the time of their settlement and erection is set forth in the following table:

	ORIGINAL	Settled	Erected
Albany	1740	1740	1752
Longswamp	1734	1734	1761
Maiden-creek	1732	1732	1746
Maxatawny	1732	1732	1742
Richmond	1732	1732	1752
Windsor	1740	1740	1752
	ADDITIONAL		
	Taken from		Erected
Greenwich	Albany		1755
Perry	Windsor		1821
Ontelaunee	Maiden-creek		1849

DERIVATION OF NAMES.—The derivation of the names was as follows:

Albany, from the name of a place in England.

Longswamp, from the peculiar condition of the soil of a large portion of the township.

Maiden-Creek, from the stream which flows through the township.

Maxatawny, from an Indian word, Machksethanne, which means a bear's-path creek.

Richmond, from the name of a place in England.

Windsor, from the name of a place in England.

Greenwich, from the name of a place in England. These English names were suggested by the Friends, who exerted a controlling influence in the local government.

Perry, from the name of a distinguished naval officer in the United States Navy, Commodore Oliver Perry, who said, after the successful battle on Lake Erie, Sept. 10, 1813, "We have met the enemy and they are ours." One of the companies in the English war of 1812-15 was commanded by Capt.

John May from Windsor township, which included thirty-five men also from this township; and the political influence of these men led to the selection of the name for the new township.

Ontelaunee, from an Indian word, *Ontelaunee*, which means a little maiden; and from this translation Maiden creek was derived.

BOROUGHs.—The following boroughs have been established in this section:

Kutztown, in 1815.
Hamburg, in 1837.
Fleetwood, in 1873.
Topton, in 1875.
Lenhartsville, in 1887.

Waterworks have been supplied at the first four, and electric lighting at the first three.

TOWNS.—The following towns are in this section:

Name	Houses	Name	Houses
Blandon (1859).....	135	Mertztown (1857)	54
Bowers (1860).....	26	Mohrsville (1836)	20
Buena Vista.....	8	Molltown (1839)	16
Eagle Point.....	10	Monterey (1830)	12
East Berkley (1820) ..	7	Moselem (1836)	10
Farmington.....	15	Rothrockville (1850) ..	23
Hancock (1870).....	16	Shamrock (1859)	26
Halfway House (1800) ..	12	Shoenakersville (1833) ..	110
Kenpton (1874).....	22	Virginville (1874)	33
Klinesville (1825).....	10	Walnut-town.....	5
Krumsville (1885).....	18	Weidersville (1812).....	28
Leesport (1840).....	131	Wessersville (1858).....	24
Lyons (1899).....	92	Windsor Castle (1899) ..	5
Maple Grove.....	12		

FIRST SETTLERS.—The territory embraced in this section was not released by the Indians to the heirs of William Penn until 1732, and on that account there was no general influx of immigrants before that time. Immediately afterward, a number of Friends entered and took up large tracts of land in localities now included in *Ontelaunee* and *Maiden-creek* townships. About 1752, nearly the entire area of these two townships was owned and occupied by Friends. The names of the more prominent families were Meredith, Parvin, Penrose, Lightfoot, Starr, Wily and Willits; and some of the descendants are still in this vicinity. These settlers went there by way of the Schuylkill Valley.

About the same time, a considerable number of immigrants of different nationalities, but mostly Germans, entered the section by way of the *Manatawny* creek and the *Oley* hills, and also by way of the *West Branch* of the *Perkiomen* creek and the *Hereford* hills, and they took up great quantities of land which reached from one end of the section to the other; indeed, they were so numerous and energetic that by 1740, within the short period of eight years, they had established six townships, embracing the entire section. There are numerous descendants of the first settlers in the several townships, notably the *Merkels*, *Rothermels*, *Greenawalds*, *Dunkels*, *Heffners*, *Kutzes*, *Delongs*, *Hottensteins*, *Levans*, *Wanners*, *Kemps*, *Steins*, *Sells*, *Winks*, *Sbaradins*, *Schaeffers*, *Zimmermans*, *Fenstermakers*, *Longs*, *Mertzes*, *Luckenbills*, *Mayberrys*, *Shappels*, *Grims*, *Smiths*, *Wessners*, *DiETRICHs* and *Kistlers*, as will be readily seen by comparing the taxables of 1909 with the lists of the taxables published in Chapter I.

¹Formerly Smithsville

INDIAN ATROCITIES.—Along the *Blue Mountain* in *Albany*, in 1755 and 1756, Indian cruelties were inflicted upon the settlers during the progress of the *French* and *Indian* war. [See Chapter VIII.]

BLUE ROCKS.—There is a natural curiosity located in *Albany* township, near the *Greenwich* township line, about three miles northwest from *Lenhartsville*, which has attracted much local attention from the time of the first settlements in the county in that vicinity. It consists of a large collection of rocks tumbled together irregularly, covering an area of thirty acres, which have a bluish appearance. They are surrounded by trees and vegetation, and visitors can distinctly hear the rolling and splashing of waters underneath, though invisible. The rocks can be seen from the *State* road, and the origin of the peculiar formation has excited much comment.

IRON ORE was discovered in *Richmond*, *Manatawny* and *Longswamp* townships before the erection of the county in 1752. Active and successful operations in mining ore and manufacturing iron were carried on here for over an hundred years; but the industries were not so numerous as in the *Manatawny* Section. The *Moselem Forge* was one of the early iron industries.

HIGHWAYS.—This section is intersected by many roads in all the townships. Three prominent highways are worthy of particular mention: *Centre Turnpike*, from *Reading* via *Leesport* to *Hamburg* and beyond the county line, which was abandoned as a toll-road in 1885, after having been maintained for over seventy years; the *Kutztown Road*, from the *Centre Turnpike* at *Berkley*, via the *Halfway House* and *Kutztown* to *Allentown*; and the "*State Road*," across the upper section, from *Hamburg* via *Lenhartsville* to the *Lehigh* county line, being a continuation of the highway from *Harrisburg* and *Jonestown*, in *Lebanon* county, to *Millersburg* and *Hamburg*, in *Berks* county.

CANAL.—The *Schuylkill* canal was constructed in 1822 along the river from *Leesport* to the county line, twelve miles in length, and operated successfully for fifty years with numerous boats owned by private individuals.

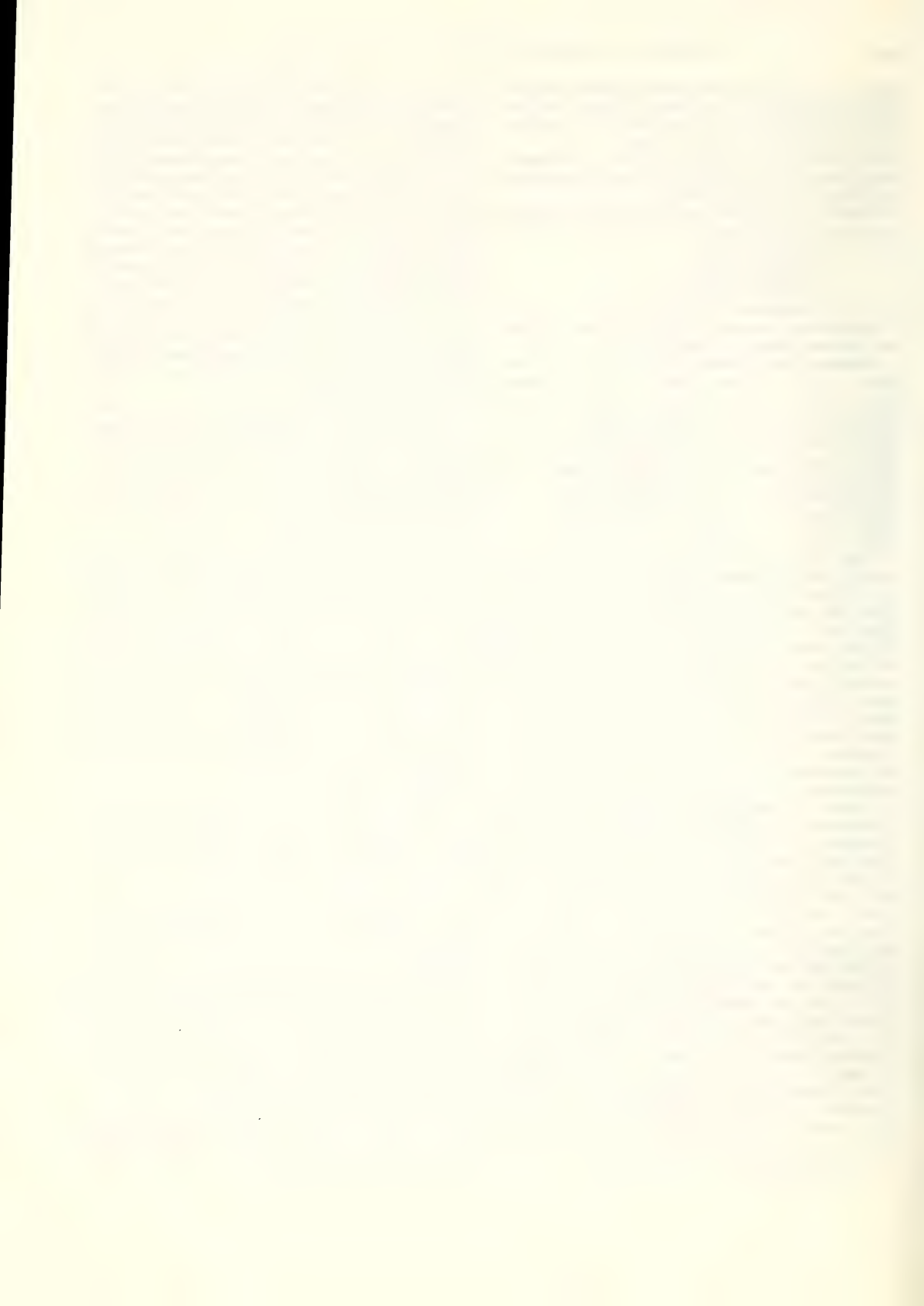
RAILROAD.—Five railroads have been constructed in this section:

The *East Penn*, in 1857, from *Temple* northeastwardly to the *Lehigh* county line, a distance of twenty miles.

The *Kutztown Branch*, in 1870, from *Topton*, about five miles in length, on the bed of the proposed line from *Allentown* to *Auburn*, by way of *Virginville*, *Windsor Castle*, and *Hamburg*, partly constructed about that time.

The *Red Lion Branch* of the *Catasauqua & Fogelsville* railroad, about 1880, two miles in length, in *Longswamp*, for shipping iron ore.

The *Schuylkill and Lehigh Railroad* (formerly *Berks* county), in 1874, from near *Tuckerton* to the *Lehigh* county line along the *Ontelaunee* creek, a distance of eighteen miles.



The *Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad* in 1885, from near Tuckerton to Hamburg, along the Schuylkill river, a distance of twelve miles.

EARLY IRON WORKS.—The Moselem Forge, in Richmond, the Brobst Forge, in Albany, the Delaplank (Union) Furnace, in Windsor, and the Mary Ann Furnace in Longswamp, were operated for nearly a hundred years from the time of the Revolution.

NOTEWORTHY ENTERPRISES

LEESPORT FURNACE, established in Ontelaunee at Leesport in 1853, and carried on for about forty years. The plant was sold in 1899 and it has been carried on since by the Leesport Furnace Company.

BLANDON ROLLING MILL was built in Maiden-creek along the East Penn railroad in 1867. It has been successfully operated since 1892 by Simon Seyfert. Annual product, 22,000 tons; hands employed, 225.

TOPTON FURNACE, erected at Tipton in 1871, and in operation since then, excepting several intervals. The Empire Iron & Steel Company has owned and operated it since 1900. Production, 500 tons of iron weekly.

SHOEMAKERSVILLE CLAY WORKS, established in Perry, near Shoemakersville, in 1897, for manufacturing glazed sewer-pipe, and the Schuylkill Valley Clay Manufacturing Company conducted operations there for ten years.

BRICK COMPANY.—The Clay Works were purchased in 1908 by A. A. Gery and W. A. Gery, who organized the Glen-Gery Brick & Cement Company, for the manufacture of vitrified brick for building and paving purposes, and established a plant with a daily capacity of 60,000.

INLAID TILE COMPANY.—In 1907, the Reading Cement Inlaid Tile Company was incorporated by a Greek from Patras, in Greece, named Constantinn H. Geannakopoulos, and he established a small plant in Reading at the southwest corner of Seventh and Chestnut streets. In June, 1908, it was transferred to Shoemakersville, where a place was secured with a capacity of 200 square yards. The company manufactures all styles, colors and designs, and employs six hands. The machinery was imported. It is the only enterprise of the kind in the United States.

CEMENT WORKS.—A large cement works was established in Richmond township in 1899 by the Reading Cement Company (composed of Reading capitalists), at a cost of \$350,000. The property comprised 100 acres, in which there is a large deposit of superior limestone, and the plant was equipped with machinery. It continued in operation for several years and employed from eighty-five to one hundred and thirty men and produced daily 450 barrels of cement. It was succeeded by the Vindex Portland Cement Company, which improved the plant and carried on operations several

years with a daily capacity of 600 barrels. In 1908 the plant was leased to the Vindex Corporation, under the control of Charles Matcham, of Allentown, an experienced manufacturer of cement.

Mr. Matcham also organized the Allentown Portland Cement Company and secured a large adjoining tract to the north and west with intention of establishing a costly, modern plant with a daily capacity of 2,500 barrels.

PUMPING STATION, established near the mouth of the Maiden creek in Ontelaunee, seven miles from Reading, in 1889, for increasing the water supply of Reading. Daily capacity, 30,000,000 gallons. A large and costly filtration plant is being established at East Berkley by the Reading Water Board to be operated in connection with the Pumping Station.

KEYSTONE STATE NORMAL SCHOOL, established in 1866, in Maxatawny, adjoining Kutztown. The buildings are large and commodious and the management has been very successful. [See Kutztown, Chapter XI.]

CLAY WORKS.—A number of clay works have been operated in Longswamp at and near Mertztown, during the past thirty years. Ochre has been produced in large quantities since 1882; and graphite since 1880.

IRON ORE MINES.—Twenty-five years ago over one hundred iron ore mines were carried on in Longswamp, Maxatawny and Richmond townships, yielding very large quantities of ore, but nearly all have been shut down. Only five are now in operation, with 100 hands and a production of 4,000 tons of hematite ore monthly.

GERY COUNTRY HOME.—In 1904, A. A. Gery, of Reading, erected a costly country home in Ontelaunee, along the Maiden creek, on the old Wily Mill property, which has become known as Glen-Gery.

TOPTON ORPHANS' HOME, established in 1897 by the Reading Conference of the Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania, on a commanding site in Longswamp, near Tipton. The property comprises 115 acres. The Home is a three-story brick, commodious structure, with modern improvements. Inmates, boys and girls, 90; all denominations.

KUTZTOWN FAIR GROUND, established in 1870, in Maxatawny, adjoining Kutztown, on the south, and the local Agricultural Society held exhibitions there for about thirty years. In 1905 a new place was established on the north side of Kutztown, with a superior half-mile track, and the first exhibition was held there in October.

LEESPORT BANK.—A number of enterprising business men of Leesport and vicinity organized a bank with a capital of \$25,000, for the accommodation of the neighborhood, and named it the First National Bank of Leesport. The following directors were elected as the first board and the bank was opened for business in July, 1909: A.

F. Mogel, president; S. M. Deck, cashier; Charles Dunkel, D. H. Reiser, Jacob Eagenstose, Charles O. Collins, James A. Reiser, O. A. Reim, James H. Wagner, James R. Reim, M. S. Rentschler, Joseph Naftzinger, Sissaman Schappell, Lloyd Miller, James R. Weisner.

ELECTRIC PLANT.—William F. Krick established an electric plant at Sinking Spring in 1903 for supplying light to the residents of that town and also at Wyomissing and Shillington and extended wires in and to the places named. George E. Wertz, of Wernersville, established a similar plant at that place in 1904.

TULPEHOCKEN SECTION

The Tulpehocken Section comprises thirteen townships. The time of their settlement and erection is set forth in the following table:

ORIGINAL

	Settled	Erected
Bern	1733	1733
Bethel	1733	1739
Heidelberg	1733	1734
Tulpehocken	1733	1739

ADDITIONAL

	Taken from	Erected
Bern, Upper	Bern	1789
Tulpehocken, Upper	Tulpehocken	1829
Penn	Bern and Bern, Upper ..	1841
Heidelberg, Lower	Heidelberg	1812
Centre	Bern and Bern, Upper ..	1843
Marion	Tulpehocken	1843
Heidelberg, North	Heidelberg	1847
Jefferson	Tulpehocken	1851
Tilden	Bern, Upper	1857

DERIVATION OF NAMES.—The derivation of the names was as follows:

Bern, from the name of a canton in Switzerland, whence some of the early settlers emigrated.

Bethel, from the name of a Moravian meeting-house in this vicinity, showing the religious nature and influence of the inhabitants.

Heidelberg, from the name of a distinguished place in the southern portion of Germany, whence a large number of the earliest settlers emigrated.

Tulpehocken, from an Indian word, *Tulpewihaki*, which means a land of turtles.

Bern, Upper, from its location, being the upper portion of the township from which it was taken.

Tulpehocken, Upper, named for the same reason.

Penn, from the name of William Penn, who had been the proprietor of all the land in Berks county.

Heidelberg, Lower, from its location, being the lower, or eastern portion of the township in its division; and

Heidelberg, North, from its location.

Centre, from its location.

Marion, from the name of a distinguished general, Francis Marion, in the United States Army.

Jefferson, from the name of the first Democratic President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson, indicating the political opinion of the petitioner.

Tilden, from the name of the unsuccessful candidate for President of the United States on the Dem-

ocratic ticket in 1856, Samuel J. Tilden, who was supposed by the Democrats to have been elected, but counted out. This was a firm conviction of the Democrats in this township.

BOROUGH.—The following boroughs were established in this section:

Womelsdorf, in 1833.

Bernville, in 1851.

Centreport, in 1884.

West Leesport, in 1901.

TOWNS.—The following towns are situated in this section:

Name	Houses	Name	Houses
Bern (1880)	18	Obolts (1835)	51
Blue Marsh (1775)	18	Rehnersburg (1818)	76
Brownsville (1804)	5	Rehnsburg (1873)	139
Friestown (1812)	50	Schaeferstown (1836)	21
Freystown (1839)	50	Shartlesville (1860)	50
Lorch (1824)	19	Stouchsburg (1832)	23
Millersburg (1814)	76	Strassstown (1840)	84
Mohrsville Station (1870) ..	45	Wernersville (1855)	269
Mt. Aetna ² (1810)	55	West Hamburg (1860) ..	12

FIRST SETTLERS.—The first settlers in this section were Germans from the Palatinate, who entered by way of the western boundary in 1733, nine years before the territory was released by the Indians. They had landed at New York in 1712, and gone up the Hudson river about an hundred miles, but having been grossly deceived and imposed upon there, they migrated by way of the Susquehanna river and the Swatara creek to the headwaters of the Tulpehocken creek and settled in the vicinity of what is now Womelsdorf and Stouchsburg. The colony comprised thirty-three families, and among them were the Raths, Fellers, Scharf, Walborns, Schaeffers, Zerbes, Fischers, Lashes and Aussachs. And five years later, there were other German families who migrated from New York, by the same course, to the Tulpehocken settlement; among them being the Hains, Schneiders, Loewenguths, Noeckers, Werners, Schmidts, and Kattermans. Numerous descendants of these families are still in this section.

In 1729 Conrad Weiser and his family also migrated from New York to the Tulpehocken settlement and his presence was a great help to the Penns in pacifying the Indians and preventing them from slaughtering the settlers. He was an accomplished interpreter and a very useful man in various ways. He took an active part in all local affairs, and he was chiefly instrumental in securing the erection of Berks county in 1752 out of the townships which had been previously established to the east and west of the Schuylkill river.

The pressure of immigrating German families was so great that they entered the territory in spite of the protest of the Indians. The Proprietaries apologized and made various excuses and finally in 1732 secured a release from them. By that time, numerous settlers were in every part of the section; and before 1740, four townships had been established by the court at Lancaster, which embraced the entire section.

ROADWAYS.—This section is intersected by numerous roads, three of them being especially promi-

¹Formerly State Hill. ²Wohlbersoon. Palatinate town.

ment: the Berks and Dauphin Turnpike, from Reading, via Sinking Spring and Womelsdorf, to Lebanon (occupying the old "Tulpehocken Road" to Womelsdorf, which had been laid out in 1727, and subsequently extended northwestwardly, via Rehersburg, to Pine Grove); the State Road, across the upper portion from Lebanon, via Millersburg, Rehersburg, Strausstown and Shartlesville, to Hamburg; and the Bernville Road, from Reading, via State Hill and Bernville, to Millersburg.

CANAL.—The Union canal was constructed in 1828 along the Tulpehocken creek in this section, via Bernville and Womelsdorf, to the Lebanon county line, a distance of about twenty-five miles, and operated very successfully for thirty years, with prominent store-houses at the two places mentioned.

RAILROADS.—*The Lebanon Valley Railroad* was constructed in 1857 in this section from Sinking Spring westward to the Lebanon county line at Newmanstown, a distance of ten miles.

The Reading Railway, from the Schuylkill bridge above Tuckerton, to the Schuylkill county line, along the river, a distance of thirteen miles.

Trolley Line.—A trolley line of street railway was constructed in 1894 from Sinking Spring to Womelsdorf on the turnpike, a distance of nine miles.

NOTEWORTHY ENTERPRISES

CHARMING FORGE, established in 1749, in Tulpehocken (afterward Marion) township, along the Tulpehocken creek, three miles north of Womelsdorf; operated by George Ege from 1771 to 1824; and by Andrew Taylor and his sons William and B. Franklin from 1855 to 1885. A part of the forge site, including the water-power, was purchased by the borough of Womelsdorf in 1906, and an electric plant was established for supplying the inhabitants with electric light on the streets and in their dwellings.

ROBESONIA FURNACE, established in Heidelberg on Spring creek in 1794 by George Ege and known for fifty years as the "Reading Furnace," during which time charcoal iron was manufactured. The first anthracite furnace was erected in 1845. Since then it has been much enlarged and improved by the Robeson Iron Company. Daily capacity, 160 tons; men employed, 200.

HAMBURG VITRIFIED BRICK COMPANY, established in Tilden, above West Hamburg, near the Reading railway, in 1891, as a common brick plant and carried on as such until 1896, when the Mack Brothers of Philadelphia purchased it and began the manufacture of vitrified brick. They have operated it since then, running nine kilns, producing 10,000,000 bricks annually, and employing 75 men.

PAPER-MILLS.—Henry Van Reed started a paper-mill near the mouth of the Cacoosing creek, about 1825, and it continued in the family in a direct line from him, through his son, Charles, and his grandson, Henry Z., to his great-grandson, F. Smith, John J. Kutz and a few other gentle-

Charles L., for a period of over seventy years. The plant was then sold, remodeled, and operated since by different parties.

The Tulpehocken Paper Mill is a branch of the Reading Paper Mills, started by Jacob Bushong, in 1856, on the site of the old Kissinger grist-mill at the mouth of the Tulpehocken creek, and operated by him for twenty years.

DAUBERVILLE ICE PLANT.—Henry Ahrens and John R. Gonser established a large ice plant in 1888 in the lower eastern portion of Centre township on the Irish creek near its outlet into the Schuylkill. The dam covers thirty acres and the storage-house has a capacity of 25,600 tons. It was destroyed by fire in 1892 and immediately rebuilt.

HEALTH RESORTS.—Lower Heidelberg township has become famous for its costly and successful resorts, established on the South Mountain for the restoration and preservation of health. In the order of priority they are as follows:

Wenrich's Grand View, first established by Dr. Charles F. Leisenring, in 1849. Greatly improved and operated by Dr. R. D. Wenrich since 1897.

The Walter Sanitarium, established by Dr. Robert Walter in 1877, and enlarged several times, and become within thirty years, under his management, one of the greatest resorts of the kind in the country.

Preston's Sunnyside, established by Dr. James S. Preston, in 1880, and operated by his son James since 1882.

Grosch's Sunset House, by Francis Grosch, in 1876, and subsequently enlarged. His son-in-law, Dr. J. D. Meyer, has conducted the place since 1892.

Hassler's Highland House, started in 1890 by James Schaeffer, and after he operated it for some years, purchased by Richard Hassler, who has carried it on since.

BETHANY ORPHANS' HOME, established in 1867 in Heidelberg, one mile south of Womelsdorf, by the German Reformed Church. It was destroyed by fire in 1881, and immediately rebuilt. The management by the Board of Trustees has been very successful. In 1909 there were 155 orphans in the Home; thirteen from Berks county.

WERNERSVILLE STATE ASYLUM, established in 1894, in Lower Heidelberg, west of Wernersville. This is a very large and successful institution. [See Chapter VII.]

HOUSE OF GOOD SHEPHERD, first established at Fourth and Pine streets, Reading, in 1889, by the Roman Catholic Church, for the care of young girls; and transferred to Glenside in Bern township, where a superior structure was erected, in 1900, on a commanding site along the river opposite North Reading. Inmates in 1909 were 180 girls; 47 Magdalens, and 20 Sisters. The property includes four acres of ground.

BERKSHIRE COUNTRY CLUB.—The Berkshire Country Club owes its inception to Alexander

men, who in 1897 obtained some golf clubs and balls, and essayed to play "the royal game of golf" on a six-hole course which John Reid, a professional golfer from Atlantic City, laid out on grounds at Carsonia, where the present park is located. The Club was formally incorporated on May 10, 1899, by Wilson Ferguson, William Kesper Stevens, Herbert R. Green, F. C. Smink, George F. Baer, G. Howard Bright, M. Brayton McKnight, J. Lancaster Repplier, John M. Archer, William Seyfert and E. L. Parvin.

Owing to numerous streams and marshes, it was found that the grounds at Carsonia were ill adapted for the purposes of a country club, and in 1899 arrangements were made with the Reading Suburban Real Estate Company to occupy vacant land surrounding the suburban town of Wyomissing, where a nine-hole course, 2,159 yards in length, was laid out by Alexander F. Smith (architect), and where the Club flourished until the end of 1902. The house built by John B. Mull along the Wyomissing boulevard was occupied as a clubhouse.

In May, 1902, the Club purchased from George F. Baer sixty acres of farming land, situated in Bern township, near Reading, between the Schuylkill river (just north of Hain's Locks) and the Bernville road. A nine-hole golf course, 3,090 yards long, abounding in interesting features, was laid out by John Reid, as well as five tennis courts. In addition, there is a swimming pavilion, with bathhouses, and shooting grounds and traps, also a fine base-ball diamond and grounds. A spacious clubhouse, equipped with all the essential comforts and conveniences, lockers, shower-baths, etc., including furnished rooms for members, occupies a commanding site (110 feet above the river level) within 2,500 feet of the Schuylkill. It is surrounded by broad porches, and affords an extended view of the grounds and of the charming scenery of the surrounding country. It is located upon an ideal spot. The reception hall, parlor and dining rooms are large and splendidly furnished, and well adapted for luncheons, teas, dinners, dances and all social purposes. There is also a first-class café in charge of an experienced steward. Ample stable and shed accommodations are provided for horses, vehicles and automobiles. A private road has been constructed from the Bernville road direct to the clubhouse. The club automobile conveys members from the clubhouse to the Schuylkill avenue cars at Windsor street. Many members are conveyed by launch or boat from Hain's Locks. The grounds and clubhouse were formally opened to the members on June 13, 1903, and instantly met with approval. In May, 1909, there were 360 members.

The Silver Cup, presented by George F. Baer, Esq., for the Women's Golf Championship, was won in 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906 by Miss Elizabeth Smink; in 1907 by Miss Margaret Moss, and in 1908 by Mrs. Caroline Derr Archer; and the Silver Cup presented by F. C. Smink, for the Men's Golf Championship, was won in 1902, 1905 and 1907 by Alexander F. Smith; in 1903 and 1904 by A. Ellis

Barron and in 1906 and 1908 by T. Jaeger Snyder. F. W. Nicolls won the Tennis Championship in 1902, and Robert E. Brooke in 1904. The Silver Cup, presented by George F. Baer, Esq., for the Tennis Championship, was won by Robert E. Brooke in 1905, and by Randolph Stauffer in 1906, 1907, and 1908. In the Handicap Shooting Match, Mrs. William Seyfert won the 1905 Silver Cup, presented by E. E. Stetson. Hunter Eckert and Samuel R. Seyfert.

The officers of the Club are: F. C. Smink, president; William Seyfert, vice-president; Frederick W. Nicolls, treasurer; George W. Delany, secretary.

GLENSIDE.—In 1902, George O. Runyon, C. O. Guldin and A. J. Brumbach laid off seventy-five acres into about 1,500 building lots along the Bernville road in Bern township, near the Schuylkill avenue bridge, and called the place "Glenside." About sixty dwelling-houses have been erected since. Some years before, a previous attempt had been made to establish a suburban town here.

WERNERSVILLE BANK.—The Wernersville National Bank was chartered March 10, 1906, with a capital of \$50,000. George W. Wertz was selected as president, and Leonard M. Ruth as cashier. In November, 1908, the total resources were \$273,579.

SCHUYLKILL SECTION

The Schuylkill Section comprises six townships and the time of their settlement and erection is set forth in the following table:

ORIGINAL		
	Settled	Erected
Brecknock	1729	1741
Caernarvon	1700	1729
Cumru	1732	1737
Robeson	1720	1729
Union	1705	1752
ADDITIONAL		
	Taken from	Erected
Spring	Cumru ..	1850

DERIVATION OF NAMES.—The derivation of the names was as follows:

Brecknock, from the name of a district in Wales; but the name had been given to a township in Lancaster county, of which the portion cut off in the erection of Berks county was a part.

Caernarvon, for the same reasons, as above stated.

Cumru, from the name of a district in Wales, whence the first settlers had emigrated.

Robeson, from the name of Andrew Robeson, the first settler of this vicinity, who had taken up a large area of land.

Union, from the circumstance of uniting two portions of territory in forming the township, one from Lancaster county, embracing about 5,600 acres, and the other from Chester county, embracing about 7,500 acres.

Spring, from the circumstance of a large spring of water, situated near the central portion of the

township, which frequently disappeared or sank away in dry weather, on account of the limestone fissure.

This formation was the only new township established in this section. A previous effort had been made in 1845 for the division of Robeson township, and though successful by petition to the court, the proceedings were set aside by a public election, which was held on March 7, 1846. The establishment of the new township, named Hay-creek by the court, after the strong stream of water in this vicinity, developed so much opposition that the objectors, headed by Levi B. Smith, of Joanna Furnace, secured the passage of an Act of Assembly by the State Legislature which directed the submission of the question to public vote, and the vote was unanimous against the division of the township.

BOROUGHs.—The following boroughs were established in this section:

Birdsboro, in 1872.
Wyomissing, in 1906.
West Reading, in 1907.
Mohnton, in 1907.
Shillington, in 1908.

Waterworks have been established at the boroughs named, excepting the last, which is supplied from Mohnton.

TOWNS.—The following towns are situated in this section:

Name	Houses	Name	Houses
Allerphenyville (1870)	20	Monocacy (1852)	44
Beckersville (1852)	8	Montello (1896)	18
Browerville (1820)	8	Morgantown (1770)	18
Geigertown (1828)	32	Oakbrook ¹ (1885)	115
Gibraltar (1836)	75	Seyfert (1881)	49
Gouglersville (1855)	20	Stirling Spring (1830)	250
Hendelton (1850)	24	Springmont (1895)	23
Millmont (1885)	65	Wentzelville	18

FIRST SETTLERS.—The first settlers in this section were Welsh, and it is believed that they took up land in the vicinity of Morgantown before 1700, having migrated up the Schuylkill Valley from the Welsh settlements in Chester county. Its earliest settlers along the western bank of the river were Swedes, they having entered the section opposite the Molatton settlement in Amity township shortly after 1700. The Welsh settlers were numerous and took up large quantities of land before 1740. The township of Caernarvon was erected in 1729; Cumru, in 1737; and Brecknock, in 1741, the names evidencing the nationality of the settlers. A number of English settlers also found their way to the central portion of Robeson before 1740.

HIGHWAYS.—This section is intersected by many roads, the following being the most prominent: Schuylkill road, along the west bank of the Schuylkill, from the mouth of the Tulpehocken creek, via Flying Hill and Birdsboro to the Chester county line; the Morgantown road, via Green Tree Tavern and the Plow Tavern, to Morgantown; New Holland road, from Reading, via Angelica and Knauer's, to New Holland; and the Lancaster road, from Reading via Shillington, Five-mile House and Gouglersville to Adamstown.

¹ Laid out as Oaklan.

RAILROADS.—The *Reading & Columbia Railroad* was constructed in 1864, extending from Reading westwardly through Spring township to Sinking Spring, and southwardly to the Lancaster county line, a distance of eight miles.

The *Lebanon Valley Railroad* was extended through Spring township in 1857.

The *Wilmingon & Northern Railroad*, in 1870, extending from Birdsboro southwardly to Chester county line, a distance of ten miles; and in 1874 to "Poplar Neck" on the High farm northwardly, a distance of six miles.

Trolley Lines.—The Reading and Southwestern Street Railway was constructed in 1890, in Cumru township, from Reading to Mohnton, a distance of five miles; and in 1894 extended to Adamstown, a distance of five miles.

The Black Bear line extended in 1904 to Birdsboro, via Seyfert, in Robeson township, a distance of four miles.

CANAL.—The Schuylkill canal was constructed in 1828, in Robeson and Union townships along the river to the Chester county line, a distance of nine miles; one level of six miles from the Big Dam to Birdsboro; and another level of eight miles to Laurel Hill, some distance beyond the county line.

EARLY INDUSTRIES.—Three iron works were established in Robeson, and one in Union, before 1800, as follows: Bird's Forge, 1740; Gibraltar Forge, 1770; Joanna Furnace, 1790; Hopewell Furnace, 1765.

Establishments at the first two places have continued in operation until the present time, but the furnaces were abandoned and dismantled many years ago.

Numerous grist-mills were put in operation by the early settlers along the Wyomissing creek for a distance of seven miles, which evidences their appreciation of the stream for its valuable water-power.

SUBURBAN TOWNS.—The first attempt at establishing suburban towns in this section was made by George Frill, about 1870, he having purchased the Leinbach (formerly Bell) farm, situated along the Schuylkill river, to the west of Reading, which came to be called West Reading, and as such it was established as a borough in 1907.

Shortly afterward (1874) a number of capitalists at Reading purchased the Muhlenberg farm along the Schuylkill river, to the south of Reading, which they laid off into building lots (about 500) and called Millmont (translation of the name Muhlenberg, mill-at-the-mountain). Some lots were sold, but the county authorities then refusing to erect a bridge across the river at the foot of South Sixth street, the establishment of a town there was not a success, and their continued refusal has kept the place backward. The construction of the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad through the proposed

town in 1884 encouraged the erection of industries and a large natural ice plant there. The railroad company named the station "Orrton" after Jesse Orr, one of the founders of Orr, Painter & Co. The city "Disposal Plant" is near by along the river.

While this was going on at Millmont, Henry T. Kendall and George Brooke laid off about seventy acres along the Lancaster road, two miles from Reading, into lots, which they named Brookside; the George Bechtel Estate laid off about forty acres, and named it Oakbrook, where a post-office was established in 1897 but discontinued in 1906 on account of the rural route; and Mrs. Mary A. Boyer laid off about fifty-five acres (234 lots) which came to be called "Boyer Heights." Along the river, George A. Boyer established in 1898 a bathing place with 100 booths for bathers, which came to be very popular. It was washed away by a freshet in 1902, and rebuilt. For several years past efforts have been made to annex the land embracing these suburban improvements to Reading.

Springmont, in Spring township, along the turnpike near Sinking Spring, was laid out by Benjamin Knowles in 1895, and embraced 950 lots.

Arlington Place was laid out in Union township, along Schuylkill road, near Monocacy, in 1895.

West Lawn, in Spring township, along the turnpike beyond Wyomissing, was laid out by Irwin B. Dill, Warren H. and Frank H. Fenstermacher in October, 1907, and embraced 567 lots.

NOTEWORTHY ENTERPRISES

HENDEL HAT FACTORY was established in Cumru near Mohasville, in 1878, and has been operated by George Hendel and sons since then. Hands employed, 250.

MILLMONT WORKS.—Orr & Sombower erected a plant in Cumru in 1884, for the manufacture of engines, and have been very successful. The firm was incorporated in 1890. They employ from 220 to 250 hands.

The Prizer-Painter Stove Company started the manufacture of stoves, ranges and heaters at Millmont in 1899 in a large building previously occupied by Orr, Painter & Co., in the same business. They employ 300 hands.

The Chantrell Tool Company was first started in 1888, at Reading, and after carrying on business there for four years, removed to Millmont. They manufacture household specialties, and builders' hardware. Hands employed, 160.

BELT LINE, extended through Spring and Cumru townships, along and crossing the Schuylkill, in 1901, and opened for traffic in 1902, for the purpose of relieving the great congestion of traffic on the main line of the P. & R. R. The length through this section is five miles.

ICE PLANTS.—*The Angelica Ice Company* was organized in 1886 and then established its first plant at Millmont for storing natural ice. Sub-

sequently it secured additional plants along the Angelica creek; total storage capacity, 60,000 tons.

Mt. Penn Ice Company established a plant on the farm of William J. Shalter in Cumru, on Flying Hill creek, in 1902, and enlarged it in 1904. Total storage capacity, 7,000 tons.

GIBRALTAR IRON WORKS, established about 1770 in Robeson and maintained ever since. The Seyfert family became connected with the plant in 1835, and has operated it with the rolling-mill at Seyfert on the W. & N. railroad since 1882.

TRAP ROCK.—A large quarry was opened a mile south of Birdsboro in 1893 by *Dyer & Company*, of Norristown, on property of the E. & G. Brooke Iron Company, and has been carried on very extensively ever since. They operate four crusher plants and produce daily from 2,000 to 2,500 tons of crushed material, of various sizes, which is shipped to all parts of the country. They employ from 120 to 150 hands.

The Schuylkill Valley Stone Company was organized in 1907, by capitalists of Birdsboro, Norristown and Philadelphia, who established a large crusher plant in Union township, one mile south of Monocacy, with a complete equipment for supplying crushed stone and Belgian blocks in great quantities. A railroad siding has been extended from the Pennsylvania railroad to the plant. Over half a million dollars has been expended thus far in this enterprise.

MONTELLO BRICK WORKS was started by A. A. Gery in 1891 at Montello, in Spring township, a mile south of Sinking Spring, for the manufacture of vitrified brick. In 1899, a second plant was established at Wyomissing; and in 1905 the adjoining plant of the Reading Shale Brick Company was purchased.

GARBAGE PLANT.—In 1902, a plant was established in Cumru, a mile south of Grill village, to dispose of the garbage collected at Reading, which is delivered there by teams.

ELECTRIC PLANT.—The Metropolitan Electric Company has secured property at the mouth of the Wyomissing creek and has arranged to establish a large and powerful plant on this side, opposite Reading in this section, for supplying power and light.

POORHOUSE, established in Cumru in 1825, by the county of Berks, for the poor people of the county. Various improvements were made until 1874. The farm contains over 400 acres. It has been maintained there ever since by county appropriations.

READING DISPOSAL PLANT, established in Cumru along the river below the city, in 1894, at a cost of \$130,000, for the purpose of disposing of the sewage by a process of filtration, pumped there from the foot of Sixth street.

FERTILIZER WORKS, erected in Cumru township near the "Big Dam" in 1905. A phosphate works had been carried on previously for several years at Wy-



omissing, which was discontinued on account of adverse litigation.

GLOBE RENDERING COMPANY.—In January, 1909, Dr. M. R. Adam, Dr. G. S. Rothermel, John G. Rhoads and Wilson Rothermel organized this company for manufacturing various oils, fertilizer products and poultry food out of slaughter-house offals and the carcasses of dead animals. They established their plant in the Angelica barn at Millmont, adjoining the "Disposal Plant," one mile south of Reading. They employ four hands and ship their productions to all parts of the country.

COUNTRY HOMES.—Costly country homes of Josiah Dives, Richmond L. Jones, Mrs. Catherine Archer, Herbert M. Sternbergh, George Horst and Jacob Nolde, in Cumru township, are worthy of special mention.

POLISH CONVENT.—A large institution was founded in Cumru township, beyond Millmont, by the "Bernardine Sisters of The Third Order of St. Francis, of Reading, Pa.," in 1905, for the purpose of educating teachers for Polish parochial schools, in different parts of the United States, being a continuation of the Convent which had been carried on several years on "Flying Hill." An orphanage is included, which had fifty girls in 1909. Sixty-five teachers are connected with this worthy institution, who are sent to all parts of the United States where needed to carry on Polish schools. This is the "Mother House" of the Order in the United States.

The property embraces twenty acres of land, and the value is about \$65,000.

STOCK FARMS.—*The Hillside Stock Farm* of W. Harry Orr, of Reading, was established in Spring township in 1893, for the purpose of raising high-bred horses, breeding from the Ashland-Wilkes stallion particularly, whose colts have developed remarkable speed on the track. The farm embraces 160 acres, situated along the Cacoosing creek, two miles south of Sinking Spring.

The Spring Valley Stock Farm of Abner S. Deysher, of Reading, was established in 1902, in the southern portion of Spring township, a mile west of Goughersville, along the head waters of the Little Muddy creek. The farm comprises nearly 200 acres.

STATE POLICE.—A "Barracks" was established in Cumru in 1905 by the State Police for Troop C, but was removed to Pottsville May 31, 1909.

STATE ROAD.—A section of State Road, three miles in length, was constructed, in 1906, in Cumru on the road from Reading to Shillington. It was the first public improvement of this kind in Berks county. [See Chapter II.]

MILK STATION.—H. Dolfinger, of Philadelphia, established a superior milk station at Joanna on the W. & N. railroad, in July, 1909. It is a large two story brick building, equipped with the latest improvements for cooling the milk. A large warehouse and ice-house are connected with the plant; also a dam. John W. Jacobs (who had been in the coal and ice business there for many years) is the manager.

CHAPTER XIII—FAMILY REUNIONS

FIRST FAMILIES

The following article, prepared by the compiler of this history and published in the "Historical Register of Interior Pennsylvania," January, 1883, is regarded as applicable to this important chapter:

You have, no doubt, been already in a forest. There, in looking over the vast collection of trees, you saw, at different places, great oaks standing like hoary sentinels that witnessed, as it were, the coming in and going out of years until they numbered a century. Their wonderful arms overshadowed the earth below for a hundred feet, and their magnificent tops stood high above the many trees surrounding. Have you not compared with one of these a great family, whose progenitor, by his powerful manhood, gave to society vigorous sons and daughters, who, like the branches of the mighty oak, scattered their seed and their strength all over the land?

In every forest there are such trees. In every county there are such families. The giant oaks are conspicuous for their strength and breadth and height. So are the families conspicuous in similar respects—strength of physical character, breadth of mind in the various affairs of life, height of moral grandeur. The former are the pride and glory of the forest; so are the latter of the counties which comprise our great Commonwealth. Nature and time have been from the beginning creating and destroying both, but both are still living and flourishing. And as the one is necessary for the mountains and the valleys in respect to water and air and the intercourse of

mankind, so is the other necessary for the counties in respect to government, growth, dignity, wealth and power.

Pennsylvania is a great State. She comprises a vast area of territory, rich in forests, fields and mines, and especially rich in internal improvements; and she is possessed by a magnificent people. She is proud of all these; and she can well be proud, for her possessions are well possessed. At the beginning of her history, her soil attracted energy and industry. Through these she has been developed to her present greatness, and these are still improving her by an ever-increasing greatness. It was a fortunate circumstance for her that such characteristics first found lodgment on her territory; and fortunate, too, that they transmitted their virtues, without wandering away, from generation to generation. She still holds to herself the blood of the first settlers. She is therefore distinctively Pennsylvanian in settlement, in growth, in wealth, and in government. Her sons, to a very great degree, possess all, control all. These constitute her great families. They are all distinctive as they are conspicuous. They appear in manufactures and trade as well as in agriculture; and they are as distinguished in jurisprudence as in legislation.

Pennsylvania was formed and named in 1682. Then three counties were set apart—Bucks, Chester and Philadelphia. Within a score of years afterward a great feeling in her behalf was developed, attributable mainly to the wisdom and excellence of the policy of William Penn. It induced hundreds, even thousands, to immigrate hither. Upon landing, many proceeded northwardly and north-westwardly. Settlements succeeded each other rapidly,

and, for convenience in local government, township organizations followed. For a period of forty-seven years, no additional counties had been formed. Then settlers began to formulate them. In 1739, Lancaster was erected; in 1749, York; in 1750, Cumberland; in 1752, Berks and Northampton; in 1771, Bedford; in 1772, Northumberland; and in 1773, Westmoreland. These were erected in her history as a colony of Great Britain. As an independent State, they multiplied in rapid succession, numbering to the present time fifty-six, or averaging nearly one every other year. Altogether, the counties number sixty-seven. In each of these counties local history is dependent upon families. Especially in the Provincial counties, prominent historical facts are inseparable from their respective first families. This feature is as plainly perceptible as the mountain ridges which extend through their territory.

In the several respects mentioned, Berks county is conspicuous. Her first settlers began to establish themselves along the Schuylkill river, several miles westward from the Manatawy creek, between 1700 and 1705. This district of territory did not then have a name. It was identified by being near the Manatawy. Now it is called Amity. It has been so called since 1720. In 1712, settlers began to locate in Oley. Then this district was so called. It included a large area of territory, at least sixty thousand acres. In Caernarvon, along the head-waters of the Conestoga, they began as early as 1720; along the Tulpehocken in 1723, and along the Maiden creek in 1733. They took up the lands, first by warrant and survey, then followed by patent. They possessed and improved them by cultivation, and they generally remained upon them until their decease, when they were transmitted by devise or conveyance to their children. In many instances they have been handed down to the third, and fourth, even fifth generation.

In the several quarters mentioned, east, south, west, and north, the descendants of many of the first settlers are still flourishing in number, in industry, in wealth, and in social, religious, and political influence. In taking a hasty glance over its broad territory, I can mention in the eastern district, along the Manatawy and its tributaries, the Baums, Bertolotti, Boones, DeTurks, Egles, Griesemers, Guldies, Hartmans, H. Hains, Hoobs, Humers, Kaufmans, Kemms, Knabbs, Lees, Leimbachs, Leshers, Lewans, Lincolns, Lobachs, Ludwigs, Peters, Pottes, Reits, Rhoadses, Ritters, Schneiders, Spangs, VanReeds, Yocums, Yoders, Weavers, and Witmans; and, on the border along the headwaters of the Perkiomen, the Bangers, Bechtels, Benfields, Byers, Chenners, Ehrst, Funchs, Gabels, Gerys, Gregorys, Kidecaurs, Rohrbachs, Rusbes, Sassamans, Sebalds, Schultzes, Stauffers, Wagoners, Walters and Wellers; in the southern district along the Allegheny, Hay creek, Little Conestoga and Wyomissing, the Blands, Clymers, Eschelmans, Evanses, Gauls, Geigers, Grings, Harrisons, Huyetts, Joneses, Kurtzes, Morgans, Pennepackers, Planks, Redcays, Robesons, Scarlets, Smiths and Ziemers; in the western district, along the Tulpehocken and its tributaries, and the Little Swatara, the Adamases, Althouses, Batdorts, Bergers, Boeshores, Bordners, Brechts, Conrads, Eckerts, Eplers, Deppens, Dundores, Ermentrouts, Fishers, Filkers, Franzes, Grofs, Hains, Hiesters, Keyers, Kissingers, Klingers, Kricks, Kurrs, Livingoods, Millers, Newcomets, Obolds, Poteigers, Rebers, Reeds, Rehers, Riegels, Scharfs, Seiberts, Seltzers, Shaeffers, Spiechers, Spohns, Tryons, Umbenhauers, Walborns, Weisers, Wenrichs, Wilhelmus, Womelsdorfs, and Zerbes; and, in the northern district, along the Maiden creek and its tributaries, the Brobsts, Davises, Dietrichs, Delongs, Drebbelises, Dunkels, Germans, Greenawalds, Grims, Hahns, Heffners, Heimlys, Hottensteins, Kauffmans, Karchers, Kellers, Kemps, Kiefers, Kirbys, Kutzes, Leibys, Lenharts, Levans, Merckels, Mertzses, Parvins, Penroses, Piersons, Prices, Rothenbergers, Rothermels, Saylor, Schaeffers, Shalters, Shappels, Shomons, Stares, Tresslers, Warners, Winters, and Zachariasen. Names could be mentioned, but these, however, stand out prominently in the development of the county from the first settlements of the several districts to the present time.

The great majority of the descendants have continued persistently engaged in agriculture upon or in the vicinity of the original settlements. Some moved to other districts of the county; others to Reading. Many sons and daughters migrated to the West and settled, particularly in Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Kansas and Colorado. Some of the sons turned to the professions—divinity, law, and medicine, in which they shone with more or less distinction; others to trades and manufactures, in which they realized rich rewards for their industry and well-directed energy. In tracing down all the pursuits of life carried on in the county, it is only occasionally that a complete stranger appears and identifies himself with her onward movements for any considerable period of time. This is especially the case in our politics. The names of the old families are continually on the surface. Not particularly demonstrative, they are like expert swimmers in deep water. They float onward majestically in the great stream of time; their heads are always visible; their endurance prevails.

In the development of the county through internal improvements, the turnpikes, canals, and railways, they are likewise conspicuous. They began early, if not ahead of time, not behind it. Their correspondence in reference to the improvement of the Schuylkill river for navigation began before 1770, and their enterprise brought coal to light during the period of the revolution. Transportation and its facilitation were always encouraged by them. Some opposition was developed in the general endeavors to establish new motive power, as there is in most enterprises everywhere; but they were successful. In laying them down, they actually walked in the footsteps of their fathers; for the early settlers, in following the streams to locate their settlements, marked out, as it were, the courses for turnpikes, canals, and railways, which were to come after them, to facilitate the business intercourse of their children. In some respects, these improvements were slow; but a consideration of all things leads us to the conviction that they came to us just when they were needed.

In a political sense they have exhibited a persistent attachment to one leading principle. At first they were anti-Federal by a large majority. They opposed the great political movement whose object was the establishment of a Federal government and constitution. They preferred the right of States, as States united by a confederation, and of local self-government. Of these rights they were firm advocates, and though their political sentiments have been transmitted through three generations of government of, by, and for the people, and though party names have to a great extent been transposed, they have preserved this principle. Through this period, and through all the excitement of party strife for power and policy, they have been thoroughly patriotic. Now the great majority are "Democrats," a political name created by party leaders, and by it they are known. But, in reality, with them it is not name; it is principle—it is self-government. This has their devotion, their love, their admiration. If, in a hundred years to come, party names should be re-transposed to what they were a hundred years ago, the succeeding generations will nevertheless be found on the side of this principle which was advocated and sustained by their ancestors.

This idea of local self-government won the first families, and induced them to locate here. It was simple. They soon understood it, and they carried it on successfully in their various local affairs. Their children took to it naturally, and naturally retained it. After the lapse of a century, it is now a fixed idea with them. Education has not changed it. The education, as dictated by the State, has not even changed it. But this educational policy is, however, making apparent one consequence—a general tendency in many men for political preferment. It is producing many professional men of various kinds. All of them manifest a desire at some period or other to serve the State in one capacity or another. Of course, this is commendable; the State expects it—she encourages it. But

are they seeking preferment for emolument, or distinction through earnest labor for the public weal? They obtain the one with ease, because it is common, because the State is generous. But they seldom obtain the other, because it is not common—because it is not the gift of the State; it is rather the gift of nature, improved by time and well-directed efforts. As yet this principle of government in them has not been affected, its virtue still prevails. In politics, therefore, as in agriculture and religion, the great majority of these first families have preserved their strength and greatness. This idea is not the notion of "State Rights," which the late Civil war settled. That fallacious doctrine had not, in fact, their advocacy, though they had been identified with the party that was led on by certain leaders who claimed it as a most material part of their political creed. They promptly denounced secession, and admirably sustained the National Government in her gigantic efforts to preserve the union of all the States. Their patriotism was then conspicuous as it had theretofore been in all the military periods.

For upward of ten years the descendants of some of the "First Families" above mentioned have formed and held "Reunions" at different places in the county, which have developed not only great interest in genealogy and genealogical research, but also much sociability and acquaintanceship amongst members of the respective families from all parts of the county, indeed, from all parts of the United States. The following families are among the more prominent which have kept up their reunions with much success and are therefore worthy of special mention:

BAER.—The Baer family of Berks and surrounding counties is one of the very large families, which has had large annual gatherings since its reunion was first organized, in 1899. The place of meeting has been Kutztown Park, and the historian is Dr. Samuel A. Baer, A. M., Ph. D., who with the aid of assistants and secretaries has collected many valuable records.

John, Melchior and Christophel (or Stoffel) Baer came across the ocean on the ship "Phoenix" in 1743. They settled in eastern Pennsylvania, and their descendants number today several thousand. The exact relationship between these three immigrants is uncertain, but the fact is established that they came to America on one ship, settled in the same section of the State, spoke the same language, and adhered to the same religious faith. Some think they were brothers, or at least close relatives.

Most of the Baers of Berks and Lehigh counties claim John (or Hans) Baer as their ancestor. Before 1750, he settled in Weisenburg, which is now in Lehigh county. He had four children: John, Adam, Jacob, and Barbara (who married Henry Fetter). John moved to Windsor township, Berks county, and his descendants live in Hamburg, and Windsor, Perry and Bern townships.

Melchior Baer, the second of this trio of immigrants, settled at Macungie, Lehigh county, and had several large farms. He had eight children, and made special bequests to Melchior and Jacob.

Of these, Melchior Baer married Catharine Desch, and they had ten children: David, Jacob, Polly,

Elizabeth, Charles, George, Samuel, Henry, Susan and Catharine.

Jacob Baer (son of Melchior, Sr.) likewise had a numerous offspring. He had eleven children: Rachel, George, Joseph, Melchior, Samuel, Susan, Judith, Ephraim, Elizabeth, Manasses and Benjamin.

The third of the group of immigrant Baers was Christophel Baer, who prior to his coming to America patented 560 acres of land in what is now Whitehall, Lehigh Co., Pa. His history is complete. The records at Easton show that he was a systematic business man and possessed of great force of character. He was the great-grandfather of George F. Baer, the distinguished lawyer and railroad president. His family consisted of six children: Heinrich, Melchior, John, Salome, Apollonia and Jacob.

The Baer family traces its ancestors to Zweibrücken, Germany, where a place known for generations as "Bären Hütte" ("Bruin's Rest") is still pointed out. Tradition in connection with the homestead at Zweibrücken has it that one Peter von Baer, in the distant past, married the daughter of a count palatine, thus establishing rank. The family coat of arms is in the possession of American descendants.

The Baers have large reunions and render interesting programs. They expect to have their reunion incorporated and to publish a family history. The following are their permanent officers:

President, Henry C. Baer, Reading, Pa.

Vice-Presidents, Rev. John B. Stoldt, Macungie, Pa.,

George E. Baer, Schwenksville, Pa.,

John P. Baer, Allentown, Pa.

Secretary, Fred N. Baer, Kutztown, Pa.

Treasurer, J. W. Baer, Phoenixville, Pa.

Historian, Dr. Samuel A. Baer, Graham, Va.

BERTOLET.—The Bertolet family of Pennsylvania was founded in Oley township, Berks county, by two brothers, Peter (Pierre) and John (Jean) Bertolet. The family in France has been for centuries one of the highest and most honorable in that country, many of the name having been distinguished personages. They are of noble rank, and the family seat was originally in Picardy. During the Reformation the Bertolets were strongly Protestant, and many, owing to Papist persecution, took refuge in other lands. Some time during the Revocation period a family of this name fled from Picardy to Chateau d'Oex, in Switzerland, and to it belonged the Peter and John who came to Pennsylvania, the former in 1719, and the latter in 1726. Both settled in Oley. The large old family Bible brought to the New World was sold in 1906 or 1907, at public vendue, to Sarah Bertolet, a maiden lady of Oley, for \$183. This valuable book contains the family genealogy for several centuries. The family is traced back to 1470.

In 1720 Peter Bertolet signed the petition for the erection of Oley township. He died about 1737, as is recited in an application for a patent of his land in 1734. His wife Elizabeth and several children survived him.

In 1711 Jean Bertolet married Susanna, daughter of Duke Henri De Harcourt (1653-1703), a general and marshal of France. Jean Bertolet, owing to political unrest and religious persecution, fled to Selz, in Alsace, where he was engaged in farming for fourteen years, during which time five of his children were born. Thence he came to Pennsylvania, locating in Oley, near the Exeter line. Here in 1754 he built a large stone house which is still standing and occupied by a descendant, David Bertolet. On this original farm is a private Bertolet burial-ground where many generations are buried.

Jean Bertolet was a man of great piety and benevolence. He prayed with the Indians and performed missionary work in his section among all classes of men that lived there. He was one of the first Moravians of Oley, and was on terms of close intimacy with leading men of the church, especially Count Zinzendorf, who preached in his house in 1741 and 1742. This noble man and pioneer died in 1754. He founded a numerous and honorable posterity and many of his descendants have been eminent in various walks of life, Bishop N. Bertolet Grubb and Jacob Bertolet (deceased) being notable examples.

The family of Jean Bertolet was as follows: Abraham (1712-1776) married Esther De Turk; Maria (1715-1802) married Stephen Barnett; John (1717-1789) married a daughter of Peter Pallio; Esther (1720-1796) married Dr. George De Benneville; Susanna (1722-1800) married Jacob Fry; Frederick (1727-1779) married Esther, daughter of Abraham Levan.

The Bertolet family was one of the very first to hold a reunion in the county. Its first gathering was held in 1897 on ancestral grounds in Oley, and annually since then at different popular places. The eighth reunion was held at Carsonia Park in 1905. The officers of the Bertolet Family Association are:

President, Levi A. Bertolette.

Vice-Presidents, Israel M. Bertolet,
Benjamin Bertolet.

Recording Secretary, Samuel E. Bertolet, Esq.

Corresponding Secretary, Daniel H. Bertolet.

Treasurer, Dr. Isaac B. Yeakel.

BOYER.—The Boyer Family Reunion of Berks county was founded by Dr. Charles C. Boyer, A. M., Ph. D., of Kutztown, in 1907, having then held its first reunion in Kutztown and the second at the Black Bear Inn (near Reading) in 1908. Both reunions were very largely attended and proved a success in every way.

The historian, Dr. Boyer, of Kutztown, is a man of cultured mind, energetic and indefatigable, and his researches will undoubtedly result in the production of a concise history of the "Boyer Family in America." Its history dates back to ancient times, and is traced to many countries. The name is variously spelt. The historian has prepared family charts and trees of the different branches which were on exhibition at the reunion in 1908.

Dr. Boyer's historical address at the last meeting was a feature and gave evidence of careful research. He has a deserved reputation for always doing things well.

The officers of the reunion are as follows:

President, Charles Boyer, Tatamy, Pa.

Secretary, Jacob L. Drumbheller, Reading, Pa.

Treasurer, Abraham Boyer, Schofer, Pa.

Historian, Dr. C. C. Boyer, Kutztown, Pa.

CROLL.—The descendants of John Croll held their fifth biennial reunion in Hancock Park in 1908. At this reunion Martin S. Croll, of Topton (father of William A. Croll, the present treasurer of Berks county), read a paper on the previous Croll reunions, the first of which was held in 1895, being one of the very first meetings of this character in this county.

The Crolls are descended from Philip and Ulrich Croll, who came to this country on the same ship, in 1728, on which Egidius Grim (the forebear of a large family) also emigrated.

John Croll, whose posterity held the reunions, was a descendant of Philip Croll. He was a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Schlenker) Croll and was born in Greenwich in 1814, being of the third generation of American Crolls. The Grimville Church, in Greenwich township, is mentioned in old documents as the "Crolle Kirche," so named after this family.

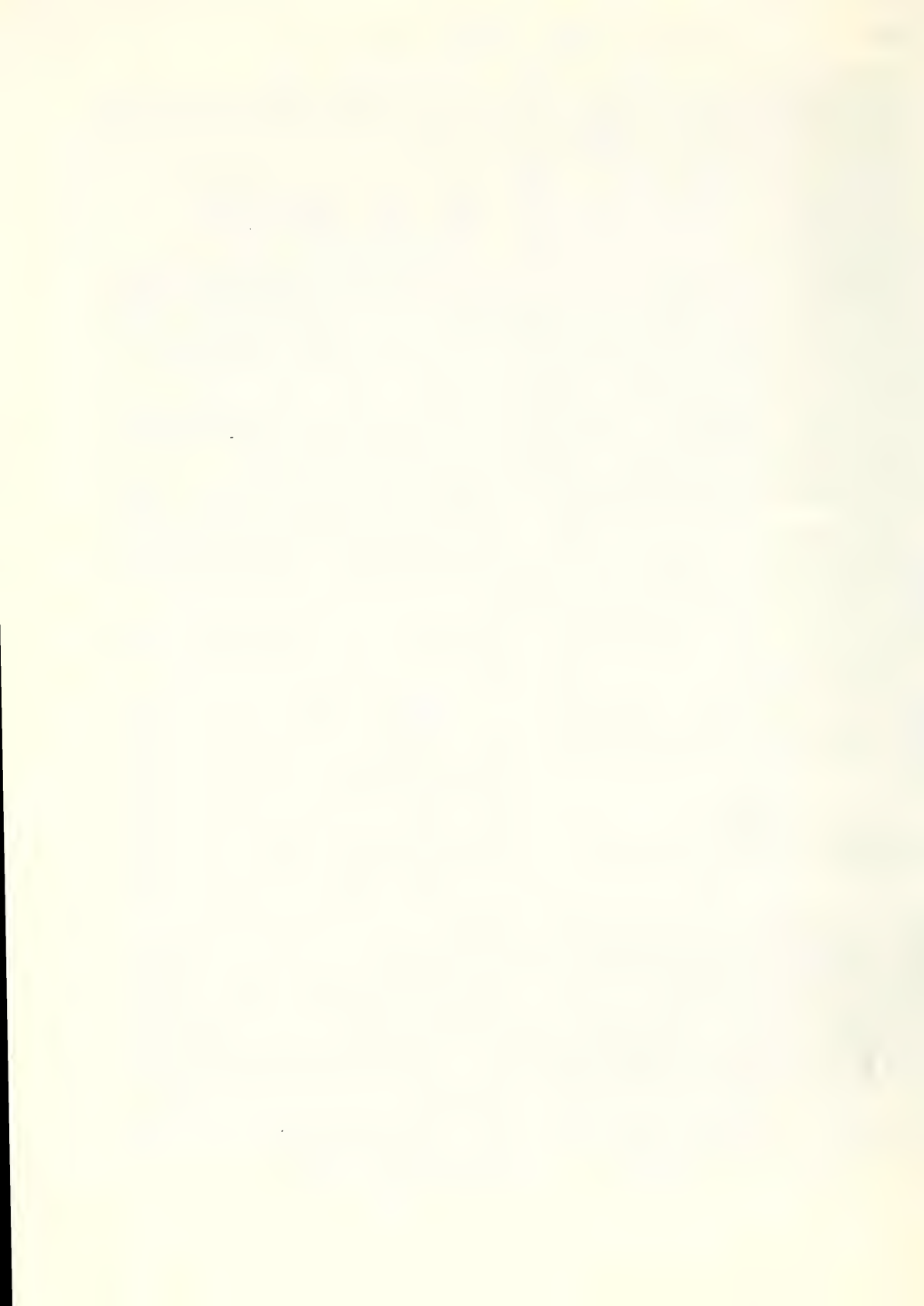
Rev. P. C. Croll, A. M., in 1887, published "The Croll Family," a volume of 106 pages, as a souvenir of the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of John and Catharine Croll.

DELONG.—The DeLong family of Berks county was founded here by Peter DeLong, who was a pioneer of the county and a settler in Maxatawny township, near Bowers Station. He was a freeholder of Maxatawny prior to 1745 and his neighbor was Henry Luckenbill. Peter DeLong lived near the present Christ Reformed (DeLong's) church, at the place later owned by Reuben Grim. He died about 1760, and his remains rest at the church named after his descendants. He reared a family of seven children, namely: John, Henry, Jacob, Michael, Abraham, Barbara and Frederick.

The DeLong family is most numerous in Maxatawny township. It is thrifty and thoroughly representative of the pioneer stock of this region. Its members have been holding reunions since 1900, with interesting proceedings. The sixth meeting was held at Kutztown Park in 1906, and the historical address on this occasion was delivered by Rev. Preston A. DeLong, of Chambersburg. Addresses were also delivered by Rev. William F. DeLong, of Annville, and Richard J. DeLong, of Philadelphia.

At the third reunion Rev. John F. DeLong delivered an able address on the pioneer, who came to Berks county from Ulster county, New York.

The officers of the reunion are:



President, Joseph DeLong, Topton, Pa.
Secretary, Irwin DeLong, Topton, Pa.
Treasurer, A. F. DeLong, Kutztown, Pa.
Executive Committee, Dr. W. D. DeLong,
 James DeLong,
 Rev. Calvin M. DeLong,
 Solomon DeLong,
 Martin S. Croll,
 Rev. William F. DeLong.

DIEROLF.—The fourth annual reunion of this family was held at Bechtel's Park, near Gabelsville, July 24, 1909, and over three hundred descendants were present from Boyertown, Reading, and other places in Berks county, also from Pennsburg, East Greenville, Harrisburg and other places in Pennsylvania. The following officers were elected:

President, John H. Dierolf, Barto, Pa.
Vice-Presidents, John Strunk, Gilbertsville, Pa.,
 Samuel Dierolf, East Greenville, Pa.
Secretaries, Mrs. Henry Mertzler,
 Benjamin Olinger, Pottstown, Pa.,
 Ammon Dierolf, Wyomissing, Pa.,
 Francis Saltzer, Pottstown, Pa.,
 William Dierolf, Gilbertsville, Pa.
Corresponding Secretary, Levan Dierolf.
Treasurer, William Dierolf.

DIETRICH.—The Dietrich family held its first reunion at Lenhartsville, Pa., Sept. 26, 1903. This meeting was well attended and much interest was manifested. A permanent organization was effected, and at the instance of the founder, William J. Dietrich, the name "Dietrich Family Association" was adopted. The second reunion was held in Kutztown Park in 1904, more than two thousand five hundred people being present—reputed to have been the largest family gathering ever held in Pennsylvania. Eight States and the Dominion of Canada were represented. At the third reunion, held in Kutztown Park in 1906, over three thousand people were in attendance. Seventeen States, as well as Canada and Mexico, were represented. "The Dietrichs in Europe and America," an address by Rev. W. W. Deatricks, A. M., Sc. D., was a feature at this gathering. This Family Association is not merely a local organization, but it has members in most of the States of the Union. It has been the means of arousing much enthusiasm in the matter of reunions of other families and of stimulating research into family genealogy.

The Dietrichs trace their origin to Dietrich Von Bern, 454-526, the Champion of Civilization, and King of the Ostrogoths in southern Europe. Members of the family were leaders in the Crusades, in peace and in war, and in the Reformation they helped to make history. The Dietrichs are prominently mentioned in the annals of Germany, and six distinct families in the German Empire have coats of arms.

The association, having collected considerable data, has nearly complete records of the following immigrant forebears: Johannes, Adam, John Ludwig, Elias and John Jacob Dietrich.

The Dietrichs of Berks county are descendants of Johannes, Adam and Conrad Dietrich.

Johannes Dietrich came to America on the ship "Phoenix" in 1751, and about 1760 settled in Green-

wich township, where he died in 1785, in which year his widow, Barbara, took out letters of administration. They had three sons: Johannes, Jacob and John Adam. The first two located in the upper end of this State, and John Adam lived and died in Greenwich township, where he was a farmer. His wife Susanna Arnold bore him twelve children, as follows: Maria, Rebecca, Jacob, Isaac, Elizabeth, Annie, Gideon, Adam, Moses, Rufena, Catharine and Reuben.

Adam Dietrich (1740-1817), a brother of Johannes, crossed the ocean on the "Britannia," landing at Philadelphia, Oct. 26, 1767. He was accompanied by his brother, Casper Dietrich, who first located in Northampton county, Pa., and some time after the Revolutionary war settled in Virginia. Adam Dietrich was a sergeant in Capt. Jacob Baldy's Company in the Revolutionary war. He located in Maxatawny first, but later because of good water settled in Greenwich township. He was a farmer. His wife, Maria Barbara Steinbruch, bore him the following twelve children: Adam, Georg, Maria Barbara (married Johannes Zimmerman), Catharine married Rev. Johann Michael Schmidt), Jacob, Michael, Heinrich, Johan, a daughter that died in infancy, Christian, Polly (Maria Magdalena) (married a Becker), and Beckie (Anna Margaret) (married Jacob Hefner).

Conrad Dietrich (1763-1841) was born in Baltimore, Md., and came to Berks county, locating in Hereford township. Here he married Elizabeth Seisholtz, from Longswamp township. About 1795 he and his family came to Reading, where he died and is buried. The following are four of their nine children: George, Jacob, Susan (married Henry Fry), and Conrad (born 1798, died 1861, who had sons Conrad and William H., the latter now living in Reading).

The Dietrich Family Association is a flourishing organization. Its success in large measure is due to the efforts of the founder. The officers are:

President, Lawson G. Dietrich, Esq., Kutztown, Pa.
Vice-President, Henry O. K. Dietrich, Lenhartsville, Pa.
Secretary, William J. Dietrich, Reading, Pa.
Treasurer, Daniel F. Dietrich, Reading, Pa.
Executive Committee, Mahlon C. Dietrich, Kempton, Pa.,
 Rev. W. W. Deatricks, Kutztown, Pa.,
 C. H. Dietrich, Hopkinsville, Ky.,
 Jonathan P. Dietrich, Klinesville, Pa.,
 C. Joseph Dietrich, La Grange, Ill.,
 Charles H. Dietrich, Kutztown, Pa.,
 A. M. Dederick, Albany, N. Y.,
 Samuel Dietrich, Sunbury, Pa.,
 Harry A. Dietrich, South Bethlehem, Pa.,
 Joel D. Dietrich, Virginville, Pa.,
 Dr. Charles J. Dietrich, Reading, Pa.

The Association has also ten active Assistant Secretaries. An illustrated pamphlet, really a finely gotten up souvenir program, contains a history of the Association, names of its officers, and the names and dates of emigration of the sixty-two immi-

grants; also a copy of the coat of arms with an explanation of same.

DRIES.—The Dries family held its first reunion in 1906, in Kutztown Park. It hails from the upper end of the county. The ancestor is said to have settled in Albany township. The second reunion was held in 1908, also at Kutztown. Besides a large number of vice-presidents and assistant secretaries, the following are officers:

President, Worths A. Dries, Kutztown, Pa.
Vice-President, James C. Driess, Oley, Pa.
Secretary, Charles A. Dries, Maiden-creek, Pa.
Manager, W. A. Dries, Reading, Pa.
Historian, J. Heber Dries, Molltown, Pa.

FISHER-HARTMAN.—The Fisher-Hartman families hold joint reunions because of the inter-marriages of their members. They hold annual meetings at Boyertown, Pa. They have succeeded in collecting many records. Their first meeting was held in 1907, and the second on Labor Day, 1908. The officers of the Association are:

President, George W. Hartman.
Vice-President, Charles T. Davies.
Treasurer, George H. Hartman.
Secretary, P. Henry Fisher.
Historian, William Kehl.

FURRY.—John Furry, a native of Europe, came to America in 1727. In 1714 he located in Tulpehocken township, Berks county, on a tract of 546 acres of land. He had two sons and two daughters, namely: Michael, John, Rosina (wife of Henry Berger) and Catharine (wife of Leonard Emerich).

John Furry, son of the forebear, settled on the west side of the Susquehanna river. Four sons and two daughters were born to him, the sons being as follows: John, Jonas, Lawrence and Henry. The first three upon their return from a grist-mill at Sunbury, Pa., found to their horror that the Oneida Indians had killed and scalped their parents and two sisters, and also burned down the house and taken a horse with them. The youngest son, Henry, they took with them to Canada, where he was afterward found. The three brothers buried their parents and sisters under an apple tree and came to Reading where some of the posterity now live.

The family held the first reunion in 1904 and the fourth at Carsonia Park in 1908. The officers are:

President, Henry S. Furry, of Reading, Pa.
Vice-President, John C. Furry, New Cumberland, Pa.
Secretary, G. H. Furry, Coopersburg, Pa.
Treasurer, Ulysses Furry, Bethlehem, Pa.
Executive Committee, Thomas Furry, Lionville, Pa.,
 Harry and William Furry, Lebanon, Pa.,
 D. C. Furry, Newmantown, Pa.,
 Mrs. Charles Furry, Lebanon, Pa.,
 Mrs. Adam Furry, Richland, Pa.,
 Mrs. Sallie Stephens, Allentown, Pa.,
 Mrs. Jennie Shunk, Phoenixville, Pa.

GERY.—The Gery family, numerous in Hereford township, Berks county, and in Montgomery county,

where the forebear settled before the middle half of the eighteenth century, has been holding annual meetings since 1908. The last reunion of the family was held at Siesholtzville. The family traces its history to one Jacob Geary (Gery), who was a redemptioner, and came into the Griesemer family to work out his passage. Later he married his master's daughter, and they reared a family whose descendants are now many, scattered over Berks, Montgomery and Lehigh counties. The officers are:

President, Irvin C. Gery, Siesholtzville, Pa.
Vice-President, William H. Sallada, Hereford, Pa.
Secretary, Jacob M. Gery, Topton, Pa.
Assistant Secretary, Charles O. F. Treichler, East Greenville, Pa.
Corresponding Secretary, Milton M. Gery, Zionsville, Pa.
Financial Secretary, William B. Moll, Siesholtzville, Pa.
Treasurer, Michael N. Gery, Hereford, Pa.

GRIM.—The Grim family of eastern Pennsylvania was founded by three brothers, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. Gideon Grim, also known and name written as Gitti and Egidius Grinnu, was the first to emigrate, landing in Pennsylvania in 1728. His brothers Henry and Jacob followed in 1730.

Gideon Grim located in Macungie township, Lehigh county, at a point where Macungie and Weisenburg townships, in Lehigh county, meet Maxatawny township in Berks county. Here he owned 1,000 acres of land, which was situated in the three townships mentioned. It is supposed that he sold part of this land to his brothers, who reared large families. Gideon Grim crossed the ocean on the same vessel in which the noted pioneer minister of the Lutheran Church, Rev. John Casper Stover, came to this country.

The Grim family is of patrician origin and long seated in Normandy. One branch established itself in Alsace, whence "Egidius Grimm" came because of religious persecution and as the result of reading an English book containing fabulous accounts of the New World. An interesting circumstance attaches to this family from the fact that an ancient pedigree, tracing the family back to a Norman baron who lived in the days of William the Conqueror, was brought by the emigrant to America.

The first Grim family reunion was held at Hancock, this county, in 1897, at which time the connection numbered over one thousand souls. The regular annual reunions in 1907 and in 1908 were held at Kutztown Park, both well patronized. Prof. Geo. A. Grim, superintendent of schools in Northampton county, Pa., delivered an historical address at the last gathering. The organization has succeeded in discovering a considerable number of records. Miss Anna M. Grim, of Allentown, Pa., as secretary, deserves commendation for her efforts in establishing a family tree.

Most of the Grimms in Berks county live in Maxatawny and Greenwich townships and in Kutztown. Grimville, a village in Greenwich township, perpetuates the family name. It contains a store, hotel, tannery, church and school. The village was founded by "Col." Daniel Grim, locally known as

"Der Hellwedder Grim." He was colonel of the militia of his district.

The officers of the Grim reunion are:

President, J. Peter Grim, Allentown, Pa.
First Vice-President, A. S. Grim, Allentown, Pa.
Second Vice-President, A. B. Grim, Allentown, Pa.
Secretary, Anna M. Grim, Allentown, Pa.
Treasurer, C. R. Grim, Monterey, Pa.
Executive Committee, Stanley Grim,
 Oscar S. Grim,
 Dr. Charles E. Grim,
 William H. Grim,
 Charles A. Grim,
 Jacob L. Grim,
 Harry E. Grim,
 Walter J. Grim,
 William A. Grim.

HAFER.—The Hafer family held its first reunion at Carsonia Park, Reading, in 1908. Much interest was manifested. It traces its history to Mathias Hafer, or Hoefer. He was a German, and emigrated in 1773 to Pennsylvania, locating in what is now Ruscombmanor township, Berks county. He first settled in Alsace township, and was married to Julia Schmid. They had eight children, viz.: John, Matthias, George, Benjamin, Isaac, Daniel, Henry and Maria. This is a long-lived family. The early Hafers were strong, robust people. The family is mostly settled in Reading, and the townships to the east of Reading, including Alsace, Exeter and Oley.

Mr. E. E. Hafer, photographer, Reading, is the president of the permanent reunion committee, and much credit is due him for the interest taken in tracing the early history. The list of officers, all from Reading, is as follows:

President, E. E. Hafer.
First Vice-President, Adam E. Hafer.
Second Vice-President, George M. Hafer.
Corresponding Secretary, Samuel G. Hafer.
Recording Secretary, William M. Hafer.
Treasurer, Samuel L. Hafer.

HEFFNER.—Descendants of Heinrich Haeffner (Heffner) in 1901 celebrated the 152d anniversary of his landing in America at Moselem Church in Berks county. Heinrich Haeffner was a son of Andreas Haeffner, of Eberstadt, Germany. His wife, Maria Eva Kelchner, bore him six children, namely: John Henry, Hans Georg, Eva Catharine, Elizabeth, Eva Magdalene and Catharine.

James S. Heffner, Esq., of Kutztown, was the president of the anniversary ceremonies.

Prof. George H. Heffner, son of George, son of Jacob, son of Hans Georg, in 1886 wrote a complete genealogy entitled "Heffner Records." This was the first history compiled of an upper Berks county family, and its influence upon other families, to trace their forebears, was most valuable. Professor Heffner rendered a service to posterity. His unselfish life has endeared him to the people of Berks county, among whom he lived and labored as teacher.

The pioneer Heffner came to America in 1749. The family is mostly scattered in the upper part of Berks county, and about Kutztown and Virginville.

HEINLY.—The Heinly Family Association was organized in August, 1898. Its members are the descendants of David Heinly, who emigrated from the Duchy of Wurtemberg, Germany, sailing in the ship "Patience," Hugh Steel, Captain, and landing in Philadelphia Sept. 19, 1749. On July 21, 1774, he received from Thomas and John Penn, sons of William Penn, a patent for about 300 acres, now in Greenwich township, Berks county, a portion of which land is still owned by his descendants.

The original ancestor lies buried in Dunkel's Church cemetery, about three miles from Virginville, and the original tombstone of sandstone still remains, in a fair state of preservation. On the obverse side the following appears, in German with English letters: "Hir ligd Dafid Heinle, Ist geboren 1728 den 17 Ocktober und gestorben den 3rd Ocktober, 1784." On the reverse side appears the following from an old German hymn published in the "Leipsiger Gesangbuch," written in 1638:

"Die Krone des Gerechtigkeits
 Ist mein schmuck und ehrenkleid,
 Damit will ich for Gest bestehen,
 Wan ich werd in himmel eingien."

On Aug. 15, 1903, the descendants erected a memorial to their first ancestor, adjacent to the old tombstone. It consists of a granite base rough hewn and a granite top in the shape of a large book with old-fashioned clasps, on the open pages of which appear the following inscriptions:

On the left-hand page—

"In memory of
 David Heinly,
 Born October 17, 1728,
 Died October 17, 1784.
 Emigrated from Germany in 1749."

On the right-hand page—

"Erected by his descendants, to their
 First American Ancestor,
 August 15, 1903,
 at the
 Fifth Annual Heinly Family Reunion."

The Family Reunion was first held along the banks of the Maiden creek on the original homestead, but latterly at Kutztown Park, Kutztown, Pa. It is held annually in August, and attended by from 400 to 500 descendants. The Association was organized mainly through the efforts of David Heinly, formerly of Albany township, latterly of Kutztown, who was its treasurer until his death in 1901. A complete Family Record has been compiled.

The present officers of the Association are as follows:

President, David L. Heinly, Reading, Pa.
First Vice-President, G. Henry Heinly, Blandon, Pa.
Second Vice-President, Chas. H. Heinley, East Texas, Pa.
Third Vice-President, Henry Heinly, Schnecksville, Pa.
Secretary, Harvey F. Heinly, Reading, Pa.
Assistant Secretaries, Calvin H. Adam, Fleetwood, Pa.,
 Charles H. Heinly, Klimesville, Pa.,
 Titus Heinly, Reading, Pa.,
 Phares S. Heller, Allentown, Pa.
Treasurer, Prof. Charles B. Heinly, York, Pa.

Executive Committee, William Heinly, Manatwiny, Pa.,
 Enoch Heinly, Virginville, Pa.,
 Samuel D. Heinly, Reading, Pa.,
 John W. Adam, Fleetwood, Pa.,
 Jarius Heffner, Kutztown, Pa.

Historian, Samuel G. Heinly, Reading, Pa.
Director of Amusements, William O. Heinly, Hamburg, Pa.

KISTLER.—The Kistler family is numerous in Albany and Greenwich townships, Berks county, and especially in the upper end of Lehigh county. The family traces its ancestry to George Kistler, called Jörg or Hanjörg (that is, Hans Jörg)—John George Kistler. He was from the Palatinate. In 1737 he came to the New World, and located in the Falkner Swamp, or Goshenhoppen, Montgomery Co., Pa. No doubt he brought his wife, Anna Dorothy, and his oldest children with him from Germany. In 1741 he settled in Albany township, Berks county. He died in 1767 and is buried at the New Jerusalem Church, in Albany township, where many of his descendants are buried. He left nine children, as follows: Jacob, John, Samuel, George, Philip, Michael, Barbara, Dorothy and Elizabeth. Nearly all of these moved to Lynn township, Lehigh county. Like the seed of Abraham of old, they multiplied, and soon populated the fine valley extending from Kempton, in Berks, to Lynnville, in Lehigh county, a distance of six miles. This valley is called Kistlers Valley.

John Kistler, son of the pioneer, in 1738, lived in Albany, and it appears remained on the homestead. He had sons, John William, born 1757, and Abraham, born 1761. The Kistlers have intermarried with the Dietrichs, Leichterfols, Probsts, and other old families of that section.

The family has been holding successful reunions since 1899. It held the fifth annual meeting at Neffsville, Pa., in 1904. The officers of the association, besides an executive committee of eleven members, are:

President, Henry D. Kistler.
Vice-President, Edwin D. Kistler.
Corresponding Secretary, Dr. W. P. Kistler.
Recording Secretary, Elmer C. Kistler.
Treasurer, P. W. Kistler.
Historian, C. K. Kistler.

KLINE.—The Elder Georg Klein Association was formed at Reading, Pa., in 1901, for the purpose of raising funds to erect a fitting memorial in honor of the ancestor after whom the association was named, and to properly care for a much neglected private graveyard where Elder Georg Klein, with others, is buried. The second meeting was held in 1906, at West Hamburg. The officers of the association are:

President, David R. Kline, Allentown, Pa.
Secretary, William R. Kline, Berks, Pa.
Assistant Secretary, A. S. Kline, Upper Bern, Pa.
Treasurer, Newton Kline, Pottstown, Pa.
Executive Committee, C. K. Whitner, Reading, Pa.,
 F. F. Kline, Reading, Pa.,
 A. S. Kline, Reading, Pa.,
 Dr. John K. Seaman, Rdg., Pa.
 Dr. Warren Kline, Lebanon, Pa.

Improvement Committee, Jerome I. Kline, Reading, Pa.,
 C. K. Whitner, Reading, Pa.,
 A. K. Kline, Reading, Pa.,
 A. S. Kline, Upper Bern, Pa.

Elder Georg Klein was born at Zweibrücken, South Germany, Oct. 9, 1715, immigrated to America in 1738, and located at Anwell, N. J. Becoming acquainted with the Brethren of the Dunkard Church, in 1739 he was baptized in that faith at Anwell, and soon after was chosen an assistant in the ministry. In 1750 he moved to North-kill on the Tulpehocken, in Berks county, and there took charge of "North-kill Meeting House." He is buried in upper Berks. He left a number of children, whose descendants are very numerous.

KRICK.—The descendants of Frantz Krick and his wife Catharine were organized into a reunion by Rev. Thomas H. Krick, in 1907, when the first meeting was held at Sinking Spring; the second was also held there, in August, 1908. This is one of the earliest and largest families of the Tulpehocken Valley, Berks county. Rev. Thomas H. Krick, a minister of the Reformed Church, now stationed at Coplay, Pa., spent considerable time and money in ascertaining the true history of the progenitor, Frantz Krick, who came to America from Germany in 1731, and about that time located in Spring, then a part of Cumru township. He reared a large family, thirteen children, and his descendants are numerous in Berks county. The ancestral homestead has remained in the family name to this date. Tradition states that Frantz Krick obtained his land from the Indians.

The Krick family is exceedingly patriotic and it has had members serving in every war fought in this country. John, Frantz, Adam, Peter and Jacob Krick, sons of the pioneer, fought in the Revolutionary war. In the War of 1812 were Francis and Peter Krick. In the Civil war seventeen members of the family participated. In the Spanish war there were four members of the family.

The officers of the Krick Family Association are:

President, Daniel Krick, Robesonia, Pa.
Vice-Presidents, William F. Krick, Sinking Spring, Pa.,
 Daniel B. Krick, Sinking Spring, Pa.,
 Benjamin K. Hunsicker, Wernersville, Pa.,
 Isaac Krick, Sinking Spring, Pa.,
 Daniel H. Krick, Ephrata, Pa.,
 George Krick, Hamburg, Pa.
Secretary, Rev. Thomas H. Krick, Coplay, Pa.
Treasurer, William F. High, Reading, Pa.
Historian, Rev. Thomas H. Krick, Coplay, Pa.

LEVENGOOD (LIVENGOD, LIVINGOOD). The first reunion of the Levengood family was held in the fall of 1906 to celebrate the ninety-third birthday anniversary of its oldest living member, Adam Levengood, and the gathering took place at the home of his son, Jacob S. Levengood, in Oley, near Friedensburg. The second and third meetings were held at the same place, the third on September 7, 1908, and the fourth is to be held in Friedensburg Park on Labor Day, 1909. The venerable man in

whose honor the first meeting was held was present at the second and third meetings also, well preserved and hearty. The organization was decided upon at the first gathering. In 1908 the following officers were elected:

President, David D. Livingood, Pottstown, Pa.
Vice-Presidents, William Livingood, Pottstown, Pa.,
 John Stitzer, Reading, Pa.,
 Casper Livingood, Birdsboro, Pa.,
 James Eck, Reading, Pa.,
 Abner Livingood, Millersville, Pa.,
 Jacob Livingood, Elverson, Pa.
Secretary, Howard M. Livingood, Birdsboro, Pa.
Assistant Secretary, Oscar Levegood, Gilbertsville, Pa.
Treasurer, Jacob S. Levegood, Oley, Pa.
Historian, Howard M. Livingood, Birdsboro, Pa.
Assistant Historians, John Stitzer, Reading, Pa.,
 Irwin Livingood, Pottstown, Pa.
Executive Committee, Adam Livingood, Birdsboro, Pa.,
 Jacob S. Levegood, Oley, Pa.,
 Elsworth Spohn, Oley, Pa.,
 Monroe Shive, Reading, Pa.

After the business meeting the assembly, which included about two hundred and fifty representatives of the family, was addressed by ex-Representative Jacob R. Herzog and by Mr. Howard M. Livingood.

The Levegood family traces its ancestry back to Ulrich and Susanna Liebeguth, who came to America from the Palatinate about 1733, in the ship "Charming Betsy," landing at Philadelphia, Oct. 12, 1733. At that time he was forty-five years old, his wife thirty-six. He was a man of sterling qualities, and his descendants belong to the best of the sturdy Pennsylvania German element in their section. Many of those who bear the name have made a reputation in the learned professions, and they are generally known for the substantial qualities that distinguished the early representatives of the family.

Ulrich and Susanna Liebeguth brought five children with them: Peter, aged sixteen; Adam, aged thirteen; Jacob, aged ten; Maria, aged eight; and Anna, aged five. From Philadelphia the family proceeded to New Hanover township, where they settled.

Jacob, third son of the emigrant ancestors, was born in Alsace, Germany, and was the progenitor of the Levegood family of which this article treats. He died April 1, 1894, and his remains are interred in the cemetery adjoining the Swamp Reformed Church. He had one son, Matthias, who married Catharine Shuster, and they had five children.

Adam Levegood is the father of four sons: Jacob S., at whose home the first three reunions were held; James, of Elverson, Pa.; Solomon, of Joanna Heights, Pa.; and Adam, of Friedensburg.

LUDWIG.—The Ludwig family traces its origin to Michael Ludwig, who came from the Rhenish Palatinate to Oley township in 1733. He was a Pietist. The early generations in St. Gaul, Switzerland, were profound scholars and a number were ministers.

The Ludwigs in Berks county are numerous. They held their first reunion in 1902, and the seventh in 1908, at Friedensburg. They have been a cor-

porate body since 1908. The historian of the family, the late Isaac W. Guldin (1834-1907), traced the family to Bohemia, in 1526. The forerunners of the Oley township branch in 1700 were seated at Dresden, Germany. Mr. Guldin worked faithfully for years to establish the ancestral history. He was eminently successful. In 1905 he collected his records, in type-written form, in a book. The officers of the organization are:

President, David V. R. Ludwig.
Vice-Presidents, Jacob D. Ludwig,
 Wilson P. Ludwig.
Secretary, Dr. J. Harry Ludwig.
Treasurer, Eli V. R. Ludwig.
Board of Directors, Jerome Ludwig,
 George S. Ludwig,
 Mrs. Edwin Rhoads,
 Mrs. Alex. B. Earhart,
 Cyrus D. Moser.

LUTZ.—In Albany township is an old family by the name of Lutz whose ancestors were Frederick and Jacob Lutz. The latter was a resident in the district as early as 1754. His descendants, who are quite numerous about Kempton and Steinsville, hold annual gatherings. The elaborate dinners and suppers are a feature at these reunions. The last reunion was held at Kempton in 1908. The officers are:

President, John C. Lutz.
Vice-President, James S. Lutz.
Secretary, Frank E. Lutz.
Treasurer, Allen Lutz.

REEDY.—The first reunion of the Reedy family of Berks and Lebanon counties was held in 1908, near Millbach, Lebanon Co., Pa. Jonathan B. Reedy, aged seventy-three years, is one of the leading spirits in the movement to have regular annual gatherings. No regular officers have been elected thus far.

William Reedy, father of Jonathan B., married Maria Bensing and they had five children, namely: George, Annie (m. Henry Engelhart), Catharine (m. Jonathan Strauss), Samuel and Jonathan B., the last named only surviving.

ITTER.—The Ritter family, which is numerous in Berks county and also in the adjoining county of Lehigh, where the town Rittersville perpetuates the name, dates back to the middle of the eighteenth century. This family has been holding annual reunions since 1898. The last was held in Dorney's Park, Allentown, in 1908. The meetings are well attended. A history of the family is expected in book form for distribution at the eleventh reunion, in 1909. The ancestry is traced to Casper, Martin and Philip Ritter, who were German Palatinates. Their descendants are numerous and scattered over eastern Pennsylvania.

Exeter township, in Berks county, was the home of the Ritters of this section. There, in 1751, lived George Ritter, and in 1759 Francis (also mentioned in documents as Ferdinand) Ritter was one of the largest taxpayers in the township. He owned much land below Jacksonwald, where the old Rit-

ter graveyard is located along the Oley Valley trolley line.

Francis or Ferdinand Ritter, born in 1741, died in 1825. His children were Daniel, John, Jacob and Samuel. John was a representative in Congress from Berks county, refusing a third nomination to that office.

Tradition says the pioneer Ritter obtained his land originally from the Indians. Some of this tract is still is the family. The ancestor Ritter, the father of George and Ferdinand, tradition says was married to an Indian woman, who was buried on the farm owned by Daniel Ritter, later by Benjamin Ritter and now by Charles Breneiser, of Reading. The officers in 1908 of the Ritter Family were:

President, H. S. Ritter, Allentown, Pa.
Vice-President, J. R. Ritter, Reading, Pa.
Recording Secretary, I. J. Ritter, Allentown, Pa.
Secretary, M. T. Ritter, Northampton, Pa.
Treasurer, Mrs. Edw. Diefenderfer, Catasauqua, Pa.
Committees, Historical,
 Program,
 Ways and Means,
 Executive.

ROHRBACH.—The descendants of John Rohrbach, who emigrated to America about the middle of the eighteenth century, and settled in Berks county, in the territory now embraced in District township, held a reunion at Hancock Park in 1908. A committee of arrangements, a history committee, and a committee on program were appointed and the following officers were elected:

**President*, D. R. Rohrbach, Williamstown, N. J.
Vice-President, Frederick Rohrbach, Allentown, Pa.
Secretary, W. B. Rohrbach, Macungie, Pa.

The ancestor had sons Lawrence and John, Jr. The family is quite numerous in the eastern end of the county, where the first of the name settled. The ancestral homestead is still in the family.

SAUL.—Samuel Saul, who came to this country in 1716, was a native of Alsace-Lorraine. After some years in America he returned to his native land and remained about one year with his family. He came to America a second time, expecting to prepare a home for the family, who were to follow. He died, and his wife, not hearing from him, decided to follow him to the New World, making the journey with her three children, Johann Nicholas, Leonard and Christian, in 1753. They located at or near Pottstown, Pa., and Johann Nicholas Saul there made his permanent home. Leonard moved to Maxatawny township, Berks county; and Christian settled in Lancaster county at what is now Lingestown, Dauphin county. Each of the sons reared a large family, and owned his own home.

Johann Nicholas Saul, born Dec. 16, 1726, died Aug. 14, 1795, and is buried at the Swamp Church. In 1766 a son, Nicholas, was born to him. In 1792 the latter married Rosina Hartman, of District township, Berks county. Nicholas Saul was first taxed in Douglass township, Berks county. In 1779 he moved to West District township, Berks

county. He was a rake-maker. He and his wife had these six children: Salome, Samuel, John, Jacob, Hannah and Esther. Nicholas Saul died in 1823, aged fifty-six years. His wife, Rosina, died in 1843, aged eighty years. After their death their son, Jacob, built a house, in 1844, upon the homestead where he lived and died, his death occurring in 1890, when he was aged eighty-eight years. His children were: Mary, Nicholas, Daniel, Catharine, Jacob, Franklin, Sarah, Lydia, Theresa and Thomas. John Saul, son of Nicholas, died on the homestead in 1867, aged sixty-eight years. He had: William, Daniel, John, Jacob, Elizabeth, Simon, Elias, Sarah Ann and Ephraim.

Salome, daughter of Nicholas, married Jacob Rothmel and had ten children. Hannah, daughter of Nicholas, married John Rubright; no issue. Esther, daughter of Nicholas, married Peter Rothmel and had eight children. Samuel, the eldest child of Nicholas, was in the United States navy, and was never married.

The Saul family held its first reunion in 1902 and the sixth in 1908, at Pendorf Park, Reading. It has successful reunions, and has collected considerable data, to be published in a private history. The officers of this reunion are:

President, Rev. J. Elmer Saul, Norristown, Pa.
Vice-Presidents, Samuel H. Fegley, Reading, Pa.,
 Dr. Charles K. Saul, Steelton, Pa.,
 F. K. Miller, Reading, Pa.
Secretary, Jacob I. Saul, Pottsville, Pa.
Treasurer, Elias G. Saul.

SCHAEFFER.—George Schaeffer, the pioneer of the Schaeffers, came to this country from the German Palatinate, in August, 1750, and settled in Richmond township, this county, soon after his landing. His wife was Catharine Reib. They had the following five children: Elizabeth, the eldest, married John Bieber; Margaret, the next eldest, married Dewald Bieber; Maria married Michael Christman; Peter was the next and Philip, who married Elizabeth Fetherolf, was the youngest of the family and remained upon the homestead near Fleetwood. He had eight sons and four daughters, all of whom were well-formed, large and strong. Father Schaeffer died in 1792 and is buried in a private burial-ground on the farm where he lived and died.

The family held its first reunion in 1903, and the second in 1906, both in Kutztown Park. They were well attended. At both meetings D. Nicholas Schaeffer, Esq., of Reading, delivered an historical address on the pioneer Schaeffer. The second address was published in the December, 1906, number of "The Pennsylvania German." At the first reunion Rev. Dr. N. C. Schaeffer, superintendent of public instruction of Pennsylvania, delivered an address, "Where Did the Pennsylvania Germans Come From and Why Did They Leave Their Fatherland?" At the second reunion Harry D. Schaeffer, Esq., of Reading, delivered an address, "Some Characteristics of the Schaeffer Family," and Rev. William

C. Schaeffer, a professor of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, delivered an address entitled, "My Recent Trip Through Germany"; Rev. David L. Schaeffer delivered an address entitled, "Historical Side Lights."

The Schaeffer family holds its reunions triennially. It is one of the largest, most honored and intellectual families of the county. The officers of 1908 were:

President, George D. Schaeffer, Fleetwood, Pa.
Secretary and Historian, Rev. David L. Schaeffer.
Executive Committee, Rev. C. E. Schaeffer,
 James D. Schaeffer,
 Joel M. Schaeffer,
 Daniel P. Schaeffer,
 James Schaeffer.

SEAMAN.—The Association of Descendants of Johan Ludwig Seaman was formed in 1903, and held its first reunion on ancestral grounds in Tilden township.

Johan Ludwig Seaman, the progenitor, was a native of Alsace, France. At the age of twenty he enlisted in the service of Frederick the Great, of Prussia, as body-guard. After eight years he married, and in 1748 emigrated to Pennsylvania, locating in Bern township, in that part of the district now embraced in Tilden township. He was a large land owner and owned a considerable portion of the township, which his descendants colonized in large measure. His remains are interred at St. Michael's Church. His wife, Catharine, bore him three sons, namely: Eberhart, John and Ludwig, each of whom reared families. John located in western Pennsylvania, where his descendants are very prosperous people, while Eberhart and Ludwig remained on ancestral homesteads. The Seamans are very numerous in upper Berks county and are a very representative and enterprising family. The second reunion was held at West Hamburg in 1904, and was largely attended. The family expects to publish a genealogical history. The permanent officers of the Association are:

President, Maj. Charles F. Seaman, Hamburg, Pa.
Secretary and Historian, A. S. Klein, Upper Bern, Pa.
Treasurer, William Seaman, Fleetwood, Pa.
Executive Committee, Dr. J. K. Seaman, Reading, Pa.,
 Levi B. Seaman, Berks, Pa.,
 A. S. Seaman, Frackville, Pa.,
 Joseph S. Seaman, Pottsville, Pa.,
 A. S. Becker, Berks, Pa.

SCHNEIDER (SNYDER).—Reunion of descendants of Hans (Johann) Schneider.

The Snyder family reunions were begun by the descendants of David Snyder, a great-grandson of the first settler of the Snyders, Hans (Johann) Schneider. The first reunion was held on the old David Snyder estate, now owned and occupied by Jackson Snyder, one mile northeast of Oley Line, in September, 1904. In 1906, at the annual reunion, a historian was elected, Rev. Elan J. Snyder being chosen. The first history of the Snyders was read in connection with the reunion in 1907. At the same time it was decided to embrace in the reunion

not only the descendants of David Snyder, but all Snyders who trace their ancestry to Hans Schneider.

The old family burial plot near Oley Line, in which are buried the first generations of the Snyders, was recently improved. It is the purpose of the organization to keep it in excellent order.

The officers at present are:

President, Harrison Yoder.
Vice-President, D. S. Brumbach.
Secretary, Samuel Ruiff.
Treasurer, George W. Brumbach.
Historian, Rev. Elan J. Snyder.

STRAUSS.—The reunion of the descendants of Albrecht and Philip Strauss, who emigrated from Wurtemberg in 1732, was founded by B. Morris Strauss, Esq., of Reading. The organization committee met on Thanksgiving Day, 1902, at the home of Joseph Strause, near Bernville. In September, 1903, on the Albrecht Strauss homestead, now embraced in Penn township, the first Strauss reunion was held on the one hundred and seventy-first anniversary of the landing at Philadelphia of Albrecht and Philip Strauss, who located in Bern township, in Berks county, soon after their coming to America. They were farmers, and reared large and honorable families, record of whose progeny is found in these volumes. The reunions of 1905, 1907 and 1909 were held at Strausstown, in Upper Tulpehocken township. This town perpetuates the family name in the county.

The historian has found practically complete records of these two pioneers, which will finally be published in book form. The officers of the reunion are:

President, James W. S. Strause, Reading, Pa.
Secretary, Cameron E. Strause, Reading, Pa.
Treasurer, Adam W. Strause, Bernville, Pa.
Historian, B. Morris Strauss, Esq., Reading, Pa.
Executive Committee, Henry N. Haas, Bernville, Pa.,
 Milton M. Strauss, Strausstown, Pa.,
 Frank B. Saul, Reading, Pa.,
 J. Morris Strause, Auburn, Pa.,
 Charles Ney, Schuylkill Haven, Pa.,
 Josiah K. Strause, Strausstown, Pa.

TREXLER.—The first reunion of the Trexler family was held at Kutztown Park, Berks county, Pa., on Aug. 28, 1907. It was largely attended. The officers of this reunion are:

President, James B. Trexler, Lewistown, Pa.
Vice-Presidents, Dr. Jacob Trexler, Lancaster, Pa.,
 B. F. Trexler, Allentown, Pa.,
 J. Allen Trexler, Allentown, Pa.
Secretary, Claude Trexler Reno, Allentown, Pa.
Treasurer, Morris D. Trexler, Tipton, Pa.
Historian, Hon. Frank M. Trexler, Allentown, Pa.

This meeting was called to order by Claude Trexler Reno, Esq., and the history of the family was then read by Judge Trexler, the historian. His paper showed considerable research and gives to posterity a true record of the Trexler family, which is an honored family of the State, a number of ne-

table personages being found among its members.

Peter Trexler, the forebear, came to America prior to 1720, and located in Oley township, Berks county. His name, among others, appears upon the petition for the erection of Oley township in 1720. Shortly afterward he removed to what is now Upper Macungie township, Lehigh county. In 1729 he obtained, through Casper Wister, land agent, a patent for land upon which he lived. He died in 1758. His last will bears date 1744. He disposes of his estate to his widow, Catharine, and his three sons and three daughters, named, respectively: Jeremiah, John, Peter, Anna, Catharine and Margaret.

Jeremiah Trexler (son of Peter) as early as 1732 had a public house at Trexlertown. He and wife, Catharine, had sons John and Peter.

Peter Trexler, the second son of the first Peter, occupied a tract near Breinigsville. He was justice of the peace from 1752 to 1776, and in the Colonial system sat at the courts at Easton. His son, Peter, the third Peter in line of descent from the first settler, was known as the Mertztown Peter. In 1783 he was lieutenant-colonel of the militia. He had eleven children, and his posterity is known as the Berks county branch of the family. The names

of his children as they appear in the family Bible (in the possession of Edwin H. Trexler, of Mertztown) are as follows: Maria, John Peter, Jacob, Reuben, Benjamin, Catharine, Jonas, Anna, Nathan, Daniel, Judith.

The minutes and proceedings of the first reunion of the Trexler family are published in pamphlet form. They were compiled by Claude Trexler Reno, of Allentown, Pa., and are valuable.

WAMSHER.—The Wamsher family has been holding annual reunions or picnics since 1906. It held its last meeting at Monocacy, in 1908. An effort is to be made to trace the family to the ancestor, and ultimately to publish a book. The officers of the reunion are:

President, Jasper Wamsher, Monocacy, Pa.
Secretary, Norman B. Wamsher.
Treasurer, Frank McDermond.
Executive Committee, Harry A. Riezel,
 Howard Seidel,
 Eugene Manger,
 Rev. Ruddy Millard.

YEICH.—The Yeich family held a reunion at Mineral Spring in the summer of 1908. Four generations of the family were represented in Mrs. William Yeich, Mrs. William Manger, Mrs. Florence Miller and Miss Evelyn Miller.



Harvey Jones

BIOGRAPHICAL

J. CLANCY JONES was born Oct. 7, 1811, in Caernarvon township, Berks county. His ancestors were of Welsh origin. His great grandfather, David Jones, settled in 1739 upon the Conestoga creek, near Morgantown, and there he erected and carried on one of the first forges in that section of the State. His grandfather, Jonathan Jones, was captain of a company of troops belonging to the Continental Line, enlisted by authority of Congress, and rendered distinguished services in the expedition against Canada in 1776. Afterward he was lieutenant-colonel. His death was occasioned by the hardships of that campaign. John Jones, son of Jonathan and father of the subject of this sketch, was for many years engaged in the profession of teacher, for which he was qualified by a classical education. He died in 1861, at an advanced age.

J. Clancy Jones was educated at Kyrion College, Ohio, and in 1833 was ordained to the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church, to which his family had for generations belonged. His inclinations, however, led him to prefer the profession of the law; and having undergone the necessary course of preparation he was admitted to the Bar. He commenced practice in 1842, at Easton, Pa. The judicial district was composed at that time of the counties of Berks, Lehigh and Northampton, and was presided over by Hon. John Bunker. After a residence of three years at Easton he removed to Reading, and was admitted to the Bar of Berks county Jan. 7, 1845. He was appointed district attorney for Berks county under the administration of Governor Shunk, in March, 1847, and served in that capacity until January, 1849. During that period he was tendered by the Executive the president judgeship of the Chester and Delaware District.

Though successful in the practice of his profession, he very early inclined to politics. Being a decided Democrat, he became active in the affairs of the dominant party in his native county, as well as in the State at large. He was the warm personal friend and political supporter of Morris Longstreth, the unsuccessful competitor of Governor Johnston in 1848, and the following year was chairman of the Democratic State Committee. In 1850 he was elected to Congress from the Berks District. Having declined a re-nomination, the Hon. Henry A. Muhlenberg, the younger, was chosen as his successor for the term beginning in December, 1853. Mr. Muhlenberg having died shortly after taking his seat, a special election was held in February, 1854, to fill the vacancy, when Mr. Jones was chosen for the unexpired term. He was re-elected for two succeeding regular terms, in 1854 and 1856, thus holding the position of representative, with but a brief intermission, for the period of eight years. As a member of the committee on Claims, he was author of the bill establishing the United States Court of Claims. In 1857 he was chairman of the committee on Ways and Means, a position of leadership which necessarily secured for its incumbent a national reputation.

After the election of Mr. Buchanan to the Presidency, in 1856, Mr. Jones was selected as a member of his cabinet. This selection was ratified by the Democratic press and pulse throughout the country with great unanimity, but Mr. Jones declined the appointment. In February, 1857, he tendered to Mr. Jones the mission to Berlin. "It is my purpose," he wrote, "to present

your name to the Senate for that highly respectable and important mission immediately after my cabinet shall have been confirmed. And permit me here to add that I think your mind and qualities are admirably adapted to that branch of the public service." This position Mr. Jones declined. He continued his service in Congress as chairman of the committee on Ways and Means, and was the zealous advocate and supporter of President Buchanan's administration on the floor of the House.

In the year 1858 he was unanimously renominated for Congress, his opponent being Maj. John Schwartz, the candidate of the anti-Lecompton Democracy, which united with it the strength of the Republican party. Mr. Jones being the special representative of the policy of the Federal administration, the contest in Berks, as elsewhere, was conducted largely upon national issues. One of the most exciting campaigns in the history of the county ensued, which resulted in the election of Maj. John Schwartz by a majority of nineteen votes. The total vote in the district was upward of fourteen thousand. Immediately after the result of the contest was known, President Buchanan tendered to Mr. Jones the Austrian mission, which he accepted. Upon his confirmation by the Senate, he resigned his seat in Congress, and left, with his family, for his post in January, 1859. Upon the accession of the Republican party to power, in 1861, Mr. Burlingame was appointed by President Lincoln to succeed Mr. Jones at the court of Vienna; but, having been almost immediately recalled, Mr. Jones, at the request of the administration, remained in the embassy until the arrival of his successor, Hon. John Lotthrop Mott, in the month of December. At the period of the outbreak of the Civil war in the United States the subject of the belated relations of the two contending sections devolved duties of a peculiarly delicate and responsible nature upon our diplomatic representatives abroad, and, so far as Mr. Jones's sphere of service was concerned, he sustained his official trust in a manner highly satisfactory to the administration and the government of the country.

Upon his return home, where he arrived in January, 1862, the period of Mr. Jones's public life practically terminated, though he did not cease to participate in the councils of his party for many years afterward. He resumed the practice of the law, and carried it on for about ten years, when declining health compelled him to retire from all employments of a public nature.

Mr. Jones was, for a long period, prominent in the councils of the Protestant Episcopal Church, having been frequently a delegate to diocesan conventions, and having taken a leading part in the measures which led to the establishment of the new diocese of Central Pennsylvania in 1871. During his entire political and professional career he preserved a character of unblemished integrity, and in his private relations to his fellow-men was equally above reproach. He had many warm and zealous friends; and succeeded, as few public men succeed, in preserving the personal esteem of his political opponents, against whom he never cherished animosity or resentment. He was well fitted to be a leader of men, and those who differed most radically from him in political opinion did not hesitate to acknowledge the winning power of his personal influence. He was a very social man. His domestic life was especially hap-

py and attractive. His wife, Anna Rodman, a daughter of the Hon. William Rodman, of Bucks county, formerly a representative of that district in Congress, was a lady of superior refinement and most estimable Christian character, and her decease, in 1851, severed the ties of a peculiarly united and affectionate household.

Mr. Jones died at Reading, March 24, 1858, in his sixty-seventh year, and upon that occasion the Bar of the county united in a testimonial of marked respect to his memory and appreciation of his public services.

Two of his sons, Charles Henry and Richmond L. Jones, were admitted to the Berks county Bar in 1863, having studied law in their father's office. The latter was a representative from the county in the Legislature from 1867 to 1869, and the former became a resident and practitioner at the Bar of Philadelphia. Mr. Jones's eldest daughter, Anna Rodman, married Farrelly Alden, of Pittsburgh, and died there in December, 1885. His youngest daughter, Katharine, married William Thomas Wallace, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

BERKS COUNTY ANCESTRY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Concerning the historical fact that the paternal ancestors of President Abraham Lincoln were residents in the Eighteenth Century of Berks county, whence they migrated to Virginia, Louis Richards, Esq., president of the County Historical Society, in a recent paper read before it, wrote in part as follows:

Among the early immigrants to the Colony of Massachusetts—or Massachusetts Bay, as it was called in colonial times—were the Lincolns from old England. The first of the name from whom the President's descent can be traced was Mordecai Lincoln, who is said to have been born at Hingham, near Boston, in 1657. The tradition that he was an "ironmonger" is strengthened by the fact that his son Mordecai followed that occupation. The latter, who was by the first wife, was born in 1686, and had two brothers, Abraham, born 1689, and Isaac, born 1691. The preference for Scriptural Christian names was followed in the family through many succeeding generations. President Lincoln, writing a brief autobiography in 1866, said that an effort to identify his Quaker ancestors in Pennsylvania with the New England family of the same name ended in nothing more definite than a similarity of Christian names in both families, such as Enoch, Levi, Mordecai and Solomon. Since that date the connection of the families has been reliably established. By a second marriage, Mordecai, Sr., had other children, some of whose descendants remain in Massachusetts at this day. The son Mordecai, Jr., removed with his brother Abraham to East Jersey about 1717, acquiring lands in Monmouth county. He resided there until probably 1720, at which date, and down to 1726, he is found assessed as a taxable in Nantmeal and Coventry townships, Chester Co., Pa. That he was possessed of considerable estate, and was an ironmaster, appears from record evidence of his association with Branson and Nutt, pioneers of the iron industry in that State, in the erection of a forge at Coventry, on French creek. His one-third interest in that establishment, and the lands appertaining, he sold to Branson for \$200, in December, 1725. In 1726 he is designated as a resident of Chester county in a conveyance to him in that year of certain lands in New Jersey. On May 10, 1732, he obtained from Thomas Millard, of Coventry, a conveyance of one thousand acres of land in that part of Amity township, Philadelphia county, now included in Exeter township, Berks county; the tract being a portion of sixteen hundred acres formerly belonging to Andrew Robeson. The date of this deed is conjecturally that of his first residence in what is now Berks county, though it is possible that he may have come there earlier. In 1732-33 he is found in commission as one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace.

His will dated Feb. 22, 1735 (O. S.), was proved June 7, 1738, indicating very nearly the date of his death. By it he divided his land in Amity township equally between his sons, Mordecai and Thomas, in kind, provision contingently for an expected child, which, if a son, was to

share the inheritance with his two brothers, each to take a third part. A certain tract of three hundred acres of land, in the Jerseys he devised to his son John, and other lands in the same Province to his daughters Ann and Sarah, leaving bequests to his remaining daughters, Hannah and Mary. His wife Mary received the residue of his personal estate, and the use of his plantation for life, being his constituted executrix. His friends Jonathan Robeson and George Boone were designated as her assistants in that office, according to a custom then prevalent.

The son John, who was by a former wife, was the paternal ancestor of President Lincoln. He subsequently sold his land in New Jersey, and emigrated to Rockingham county, Va., in 1765. This date is established from the tax lists of Berks county and the local records in Virginia in correspondence therewith. John had a son Abraham who went to Kentucky in 1782, and two years later was killed there by the Indians. Abraham left three sons, Mordecai, Josiah and Thomas. The president was the son of the last named, by his first wife, Nancy Hanks.

The posthumous son of Mordecai of Exeter, named Abraham, half-brother of John, was born Oct. 29, 1736. He became the most prominent member of the Berks county family in public life. From 1773 to 1775 he was a County Commissioner; served as sub-lieutenant of the county in 1777, was a member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly from 1772 to 1786; delegate to the Pennsylvania Convention of 1787 to ratify the Federal Constitution, and a member of the convention which devised the State Constitution of 1790. He died at his residence in Exeter township Jan. 31, 1806, in his seventieth year. He married in 1761 Anne Boone, daughter of James Poone, and his wife Mary Poulke. Her father's brother, Squire Boone, was the father of Daniel Boone, the pioneer of Kentucky, and a native of Berks county, to whom she was thus first cousin. Thomas Lincoln, brother of Abraham, was a thirty landholder, and was sheriff of the county in 1758 and 1759. Mordecai Lincoln, the other brother, remained a resident of Berks county up to about 1789, removing to Dauphin and subsequently to Fayette county, Pennsylvania.

President Lincoln referred to his Pennsylvania ancestors as Quakers. There is no evidence of the connection of the New England Lincolns with the Friends. Some of the members of the branch which came to Pennsylvania became affiliated with that denomination through intermarriage. Anne Boone, wife of Abraham Lincoln, the county commissioner, was brought under mild censure for marrying out of meeting. The Boones were of English descent, and staunch Quakers. George Boone, a native of Devonshire, who emigrated to the Province in 1717, belonged for a time to the Gwynedd Monthly Meeting, in Philadelphia county. Having acquired lands in what is now Exeter township, Berks county, in 1718, and settled there, he was appointed in 1723 by the Gwynedd Meeting to keep the accounts of births and marriages of Friends in his vicinity. He donated the ground for the meeting-house and burial-place of the Oley Monthly Meeting, since called the Exeter Monthly Meeting, constituted in 1727. The Boones were a prolific race, and, together with the Lincolns, left numerous descendants, who were among the most intelligent and respectable of the county stock. The two families were closely associated, and in the Exeter Meeting Ground the earlier generations of both lie buried.

Squire Boone, father of Daniel, removed in 1750 with his family to North Carolina, on the Yadkin river. Thence after he had grown to manhood, Daniel went to Kentucky, and entered upon his famous career as pioneer of that remote border land of civilization. From the connection of the Boones and Lincolns in Berks county, the inference is reasonably certain that the Southern migration of John, the President's ancestor, in 1765, was the direct result of that of the Boones, fifteen years previously.

A theory regarding the maternal ancestry of President Lincoln is that his mother, Nancy Hanks, was descended from a family of that name traceable in Berks county at the period when the earlier generations of the Lincolns

were seated there. Nancy Hanks was a daughter of Joseph Hanks, of Nelson county, Ky., and one of her aunts on the maternal side married Abraham Lincoln, of Virginia, the grandfather of the President and son of John. All that is positively known upon this head is that a family by the name of Hanks appears in the records of the Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of an early date, and that the name of one Joseph Hancok is found upon the list of taxables of the town of Reading between 1758 and 1763. Whether the latter was identical with the Joseph Hanks of Kentucky, father of Nancy, is a matter of conjecture. In the absence of more definite facts, either for or against the supposition, no positive conclusion can be reached upon the subject.

[On page 299 may be seen a cut of the building where the children of Mordecai Lincoln, Sr., were born. It is situated about a mile below Lorane Station, several hundred feet north from the Philadelphia & Reading railroad, near a small stream. An extension was built to the west end.]

HON. THOMAS WHARTON, Jr., the first Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, under the constitution of 1776, was born in 1735, in Chester county, Pa., a son of John and Mary (Dobbins) Wharton, grandson of Thomas and great-grandson of Richard Wharton.

Richard Wharton, who emigrated to Pennsylvania from Kellworth, in the parish of Overton, Westmorelandshire, England, at an early date, was the emigrant ancestor of the Wharton family in America.

Thomas Wharton, who later achieved so great a distinction in his native State, spent his boyhood attending school in the primitive institutions in the vicinity of his home, and assisting on the paternal farm, and he became a young man of sterling character. In 1755 he moved to Philadelphia, where he apprenticed himself to an employer by the name of Reese Meridith and later was associated with Anthony Stocker. With the latter he formed a partnership, under the firm name of Stocker & Wharton, in the mercantile line. This firm became very strong, and according to the custom-house bonds of 1752, was one of the heaviest importers in the city.

Governor Wharton, then but a prosperous merchant, was married Nov. 4, 1762, at Christ Church, Philadelphia, to Susannah Lloyd, daughter of Thomas and Susannah (Kearney) Lloyd, and they had the following children: Lloyd, Kearney, William M., Sarah N. and Susannah. The mother of these children died Oct. 24, 1772. On Dec. 7, 1774, Thomas Wharton married (second) Elizabeth Fishbourne, daughter of William and Mary (Tallman) Fishbourne, and they had three children, viz.: Mary, Thomas F. and William Fishbourne. Governor Wharton was an Orthodox Friend.

It is passing strange that the history of Thomas Wharton, Jr., a man whose life was so closely linked with that of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, whose affairs he administered during the darkest struggle in which she and her sister colonies ever engaged, is not more widely and more intimately known. One most obvious reason for this is to be found in the circumstance of his early death, which abruptly terminated a useful and honorable career; for, considerable as were the services which he had already rendered his country, the potentialities of the future were even greater, and without doubt he, who had acquitted himself so creditably, would, had he lived to see the new government permanently established, have continued to hold positions of honor and trust in his native State. To quote: "Full justice has never been done to the magnanimity and ability of Pennsylvania's statesmen and warriors during the Revolutionary contest. The quiet and unassuming character of her population has caused the historians, in a measure, to overlook their merit in the council and in the field."

By reading the history of Pennsylvania during those momentous years from 1774-1775 and up to 1778, we recognize the worth of Governor Wharton, from the pages of her records and archives, full of important orders emanating from him at trying crises; or, in glancing over the journals of the day, which abound in proclamations that

even now stir us by their tone of deep and earnest patriotism. Through ringing calls to arms and eloquent appeals to the nobler impulses of mankind, we gain some insight into the character of the man of whom few written expressions are left us. He was a man, however, who had impressed his personality in such a way that we know he was universally beloved.

Thomas Wharton had been called to numerous positions of trust, had served with honor and capacity on the committee of Safety, and in 1776, when the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania called together a convention to frame a new Constitution, for the Province of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the Resolve of Congress (on May 10th of that year), on July 24th a Council of Safety was established, in which the convention vested the executive authority of the government until the new Constitution should be put in operation. Thomas Wharton, Jr., who had given abundant proof of his zeal and ability when a member of the late committee of Safety, was now chosen president of the newly formed council and again distinguished himself in a most creditable manner. In February, 1777, an election was held for the choice of assemblyman, in place of several who had declined to act. Thomas Wharton, Jr., was elected councilman from Philadelphia and later, as such, assisted to organize the Supreme Executive Council and thus complete the new government. This was done and the General Assembly and Council united and elected Mr. Wharton president of the latter body. As president of the Council of Safety, Mr. Wharton had filled with honor a position of trust, hence, it is not strange that he should have been offered one of greater responsibility under the new government. It seemed, indeed, as if by mutual attraction, the best minds of the country were drawn together, and that, with an insight born of the necessities of the hour, men recognized each other's worth and discerned in what field their talents would be best developed for the good of the common cause.

Thus Thomas Wharton, Jr.'s talents were pre-eminently administrative, and from one important position in his State he was raised to another until finally called upon, amid the bitter political dispute of 1777, to fill the most elevated position his proud State could offer him, that of president of the newly formed Supreme Executive Council. On March 5, 1777, the new president was duly inaugurated as president of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, captain-general and commander-in-chief, and served as such until May 23, 1778, when his death occurred in the city of Lancaster. His funeral was solemnized with civil and military honors and his remains were interred at the Evangelical Trinity Lutheran Church at Lancaster. His fame rests with posterity.

William Fishbourne Wharton, the third child of Thomas and Elizabeth (Fishbourne) Wharton, was born Aug. 10, 1778, and was married (first) May 10, 1804, to Susan Shoemaker, who died Nov. 3, 1821. She was the mother of nine children as follows: Thomas, George M., Fishbourne, Henry, Joseph, Deborah, William, Edward and Elizabeth. He married (second) Mary Ann Shoemaker, a sister of his first wife by whom he had two children, namely: Susan F. and Philip Fishbourne. Two of these children, George M. and Philip F., attained distinction in legal and artistic circles.

Besides Miss Susan F. Wharton, who is the only living grandchild of Governor Wharton, several of his great-grandchildren have resided in Berks county, namely: Wharton Morris, grandson of Kearney, who was a son of the Governor by his first marriage; Maria Wharton Brooke, widow of Dr. Brooke and a granddaughter of Kearney Wharton; and Robert Wharton Bickley, also a grandson of Kearney Wharton. Mrs. Brooke and Mrs. Bickley are living in Reading at the present time, both widows. Miss Susan F. Wharton, who until lately resided at No. 138 North Fourth street, Reading, is now living at "The Poplars," Wyomissing, esteemed for her ancestry and also for her personal characteristics.

EDWARD BIDDLE, representative from Berks county in the First Congress, was born in 1732. He was the fourth son of William Biddle, a native of New Jersey, whose grandfather was one of the original proprietors of that State, having left England with his father in 1681. His mother was Mary Scull, the daughter of Nicholas Scull, Surveyor-General of Pennsylvania from 1748 to 1761. James, Nicholas, and Charles Biddle were three of his brothers.

In 1758, Edward Biddle was commissioned an ensign in the Provincial Army of Pennsylvania, and was present at the taking of Fort Niagara in the French and Indian War. In 1759 he was promoted to lieutenant, and in 1760 commissioned as a captain, after which he resigned from the army and received 5,000 acres of land for his services. He then selected the law as his profession, and after the usual course of study at Philadelphia in the office of his eldest brother, he located at Reading, where he soon established himself as a lawyer. In 1767, he represented Berks county in the Provincial Assembly, and he was annually re-elected until 1775, and again elected in 1778. In 1774 and 1775, he officiated as speaker, having previously been placed upon the most important committees, and having taken an active part in all the current business.

When the citizens of Reading held a public meeting on July 2, 1774, to take initiatory steps in behalf of the Revolution, they selected him to preside over their deliberations, and the resolutions adopted by them were doubtless drafted by him. His patriotic utterances won their admiration, and they unanimously gave him a vote of thanks and appreciation of his efforts in the cause of the rights and liberties of America. On the same day, while presiding at this meeting, the Assembly of Pennsylvania was in session and elected eight delegates as representatives to the First Continental Congress, and among them was Edward Biddle of Reading. He was again elected as one of the delegates to the new Congress, which was held in May, 1775; and he was elected the third time. The first two terms extended from Sept. 5, 1774, to Dec. 12, 1776, and the last from 1778 to 1779. The public records in the county offices, especially in the prothonotary's office, disclose a large and lucrative practice by him as an attorney-at-law, and this extended from 1760 to the time of his decease in 1779. It seems to have been as much as, if not more than, that of all the other attorneys taken together.

He died Sept. 5, 1779, at Baltimore, Md., whither he had gone for medical treatment. He married Elizabeth Ross, daughter of Rev. George Ross, of New Castle, Del., by whom he had two daughters, Catharine (m. George Lux, Esq., of Baltimore); and Abigail (m. Capt. Peter Scull of Reading). We conclude this article with Mr. Biddle's autograph.

E Biddle

MARK BIRD, distinguished ironmaster and patriot of Berks county, was a son of William Bird, one of the most prominent iron men of Berks county from 1740 to 1762, whose works were situated near the mouth of Hay creek, in Union township. He was born at that place in January, 1739, and learned to carry on the iron business. After his father's death in 1762, he took charge of the estate, and by partition proceedings in the Orphans' court came to own the properties, which consisted of 3,000 acres of land, three forges, a grist mill, and a saw mill. About that time he laid out a town there and named it Birdsboro. By the time the Revolution broke out he had enlarged his possessions very much, and came to be one of the richest and most enterprising men in this section of the State. The recorder's office shows that he also owned at different times various properties at Reading.

In the popular demonstrations at Reading for the Revolution, he took an active part. At the meeting Dec. 3, 1774, he was selected as one of the committee on Observation, recommended by Congress, and Jan. 2, 1775, he was chosen one of the delegates to the Provincial Conference, and placed on the committee of Correspondence. He was also prominently identified with the military movements, having in 1775 and 1776 served as lieutenant-colonel of the 2d Battalion of the county militia, which was formed out of companies in the vicinity of Birdsboro. In August, 1776, as a colonel, he fitted out 300 men of his battalion with uniforms, tents, and provisions at his own expense. They were in service at, or near, South Amboy in the fall of 1776, and may have constituted a part of the "Flying Camp." In 1775 and 1776 he officiated as one of the judges of the County courts. In 1785 his landed possessions in Berks county included eight thousand acres, upon which were the extensive iron works at Birdsboro, and also the Hopewell Furnace on Sixpenny creek, which he had erected about 1763. And it is said that he owned large property interests in New Jersey and Maryland. About 1788, he removed to North Carolina, where he died some years afterward. He married Mary Ross, daughter of Rev. George Ross. He was a brother-in-law of Edward Biddle; and also of George Ross, of Lancaster, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. His own signature is herewith reproduced.

Mark Bird

GABRIEL HIESTER (son of Hon. Gabriel Hiester, a prominent representative man of Berks county) was born in Bern township Jan. 3, 1779. He was given a good English and German education, and his youth was spent on his father's farm. His father having taken an active and successful part in local politics, he naturally exhibited the same spirit at an early age. By appointment from the Governor, he was prothonotary of the county from 1809 to 1817; clerk of the Quarter Sessions from 1809 to 1812, and 1814 to 1817; and associate judge from 1819 to 1823. During the War of 1812-15 he served as brigade-major in the campaign at Washington and Baltimore. He served as a Presidential elector in 1817 and in 1821, casting his ballot upon both occasions for James Monroe. Governor Shulze appointed him surveyor-general of the State in 1824, when he removed to Harrisburg, and he officiated in that position for six years. While at Harrisburg he became interested in the iron business, and he erected the first rolling-mill in that vicinity, continuing actively engaged in it till his decease there in 1834. He married Mary Otto (daughter of Dr. John Otto, of Reading), and she died in 1833. They had the following children: Louisa, Harriet (m. C. B. Bioren), Augustus O., Gabriel and Catharine.

JOSEPH HIESTER, Governor of Pennsylvania, was born in Bern township, Berks county, Nov. 18, 1732. His father, John Hiester, emigrated to this country in 1732, from the village of Elsoff, in the province of Westphalia, Germany. Some years afterward, he settled in Bern township, where he was married to Mary Barbara Epler, a daughter of one of the first settlers in that section of the county. He and his two brothers, Joseph and Daniel (who had emigrated in 1738), took up large tracts of land comprising several thousand acres, which extended from the Bern church to the Tulphocken creek. He died in 1757, aged fifty years. His wife was born in 1732, and she died in 1809.

Joseph Hiester grew to manhood on a farm. In the intervals of farm labor, he attended the school which was conducted at the Bern church, and there he acquired the rudiments of an English and German education. The homestead was situated about a mile north from the

church. He removed to Reading before he was of age, and entered the general store of Adam Witman. While there he became acquainted with Witman's daughter, Elizabeth, and he was married to her in 1771. He continued with his father-in-law till the breaking out of the Revolution; then he raised a company of eighty men in July, 1776, which became a part of the "Flying Camp," and participated in the battle of Long Island. He was taken prisoner in the engagement, and he and the other prisoners endured many hardships for several months before they were exchanged. He then remained at home only a short time, sufficient to regain his health and strength, when he again joined the army, near Philadelphia, returning in time to participate in the battle of Germantown. He continued in active service till the close of the war. Upon his return from the Revolution, he entered into partnership with his father-in-law, and some years afterward became sole proprietor of the store. He conducted his business operations very successfully for a number of years. Public affairs also received much of his attention, not only relating to political government, but also to the development of Reading and the county by internal improvements. He served in the General Assembly from 1787 to 1790, being there when that body ratified the Constitution of the United States. He was one of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention of Pennsylvania in 1789, and assisted in framing the Constitution of 1790. He was the first State Senator from Berks county from 1790 to 1794. In 1797 he was elected to represent the county in Congress, and he was continued as the representative from 1797 to 1807. After an intermission of eight years, which he devoted entirely to business at Reading, he was again sent to Congress in 1815, and re-elected twice. While holding this office he was prominently identified with the political affairs of Pennsylvania, so much so that in 1817 he became the nominee of the Federal party for Governor, though not elected then. The party selected him in 1820 as the most available candidate, and he was elected. This was a great victory for him, but especially for his party, inasmuch as he was the first successful candidate which the Federalists had placed in the field against the Democrats.

The administration of Governor Hiester was characterized by great activity in promoting the growth of the Commonwealth, especially through internal improvements. He suggested that the sessions of the Legislature might be shortened without detriment to the public good, that public improvements could be made advantageously and domestic manufactures encouraged with success, and that there existed an imperative duty to introduce and support a liberal system of education connected with general religious instruction. While he occupied the gubernatorial chair, the State capital was removed from Lancaster to Harrisburg. The building was begun in 1819 and finished in 1821, and the General Assembly convened in it for the first time on Jan. 3, 1822. The capital had been at Lancaster since 1799, and previously at Philadelphia. Upon the expiration of his term as governor he lived in retirement at Reading. His residence was situated on the northern side of Penn street (No. 437) midway between Fourth and Fifth streets. He owned a number of farms in Alsace (now Muhlenberg), Cumru and Bern townships, tracts of woodland on Mount Penn (altogether numbering nearly two thousand acres), seven prominent business stands and dwellings in Reading, and also out-lots. He occupied and farmed the out-lots for his own use—a custom then carried on by the more prominent inhabitants in order to supply their families with vegetables—and kept horses and cows.

Governor Hiester was a man of commanding presence and pleasing address. He was about six feet tall and weighed about 200 pounds. He was a member of the Reformed Church. His wife died in 1825, aged seventy-five years. He died in 1832, aged seventy-nine years. His surviving children and grandchildren were: a son, John S. Hiester; two daughters, Catharine (widow of Hon. John Spayd), and Rebecca (married to Rev. Henry A. Muhlenberg); a granddaughter, Mary E. Muhlenberg (daughter of

Mary Hiester, who had married Rev. Henry A. Muhlenberg), and the children of Elizabeth Hiester (who married Levi Pauling), Joseph, Henry, Elizabeth (married Thomas Ross), James, Rebecca, Ellen and Mary. Governor Hiester's autograph is shown herewith.

Jos. Hiester

JOHN PRINGLE JONES, first President Judge of Berks county under the amended Constitution of Pennsylvania, from 1851 to 1861, was born near Newtown, Bucks county, in 1812. His father died when he was young. His mother was of an English family in Philadelphia. His education was acquired at the Partridge Military Academy in Middletown, Conn., at the University of Pennsylvania, and the College of New Jersey at Princeton, from which last he was graduated in 1831. He studied law in the office of Charles Chauncey, Esq., and was admitted to the Philadelphia Bar in 1834. While in Berks county, in 1835, he determined to locate at Reading. In 1839 he was appointed deputy attorney general of Berks county and served in that office until 1847. During this time he was associated in the practice of law with Robert M. Barr, Esq., who in 1845, was appointed reporter of the decisions of the Supreme Court. At the expiration of the official term of the Hon. John Banks in 1847, he was appointed to fill this position. By an Act of the Legislature, passed in 1849, Berks county was erected into a separate judicial district, of which David F. Gordon, Esq., was appointed president judge, and Judge Jones continued to preside in Lehigh and Northampton counties until 1851.

In 1849, Mr. Barr, the State reporter, died and Judge Jones completed two of the State Reports, known as the "Jones reports." In 1851 he was elected president judge of Berks county for ten years. After the expiration of his term he devoted himself to literary pursuits and to the management of the Charles Evans Cemetery Company, of which he was elected president.

In 1867, Judge Maynard (of the 3rd Judicial District, then composed of Lehigh and Northampton counties), died, and Judge Jones was appointed his successor for the unexpired term. This was the last official position he occupied. In 1872, he sailed for Europe, accompanied by his wife, and traveled through France, Italy, Germany and a part of Russia. He was taken sick and died in London on March 16, 1874. His remains were brought to Reading and buried in the Charles Evans Cemetery. He married (first) in 1840, Annie Hiester, daughter of Dr. Isaac Hiester, of Reading. After her death, he married, in 1851, Catharine E. Hiester, daughter of John S. Hiester.

GEN. WILLIAM H. KEIM was born at Reading June 13, 1813, eldest son of Benneville Keim (president of the Farmers Bank for a number of years, Mayor of Reading for three terms, and enterprising business man of the county), and his wife, Mary High (daughter of Gen. William High, wealthy farmer at "Poplar Neck," of Cuarru township, and prominent in the military affairs of the county).

At the age of twelve years William H. Keim entered the Military Academy at Mount Airy, near Philadelphia, then one of the foremost educational institutions in the United States, and was graduated with honor in 1829. Upon returning home, he entered the store of his father, one of the largest general hardware stores in Reading, and continued actively engaged in this pursuit for nearly thirty years. The greater part of the time he was a proprietor of a large store, in co-partnership with his brother, John H. Keim. Besides the store business, he encouraged enterprises generally for the development of Reading. His early military training gave him a natural taste for military affairs and he found much gratification in the volunteer service of the State militia. Before the age of seventeen years he was an orderly sergeant of the "Washington Grays," and in 1837 he became captain (succeeding his

cousin, Capt. Daniel M. Keim). He was promoted rapidly till 1842 when he was elected major-general of the 5th Division of Pennsylvania Volunteers, composed of Berks, Lebanon, Dauphin and Schuylkill counties. In that year he took a prominent part in the military encampment held at Reading, which was an eventful occasion in the history of military affairs in Berks county. In 1844, during the religious riot at Philadelphia, he was ordered to assist in quelling the disturbances. His services in organizing the local militia and in bringing them under proper discipline were both untiring and successful, and they were placed in the front rank of the volunteer soldiers of the State. In 1849 he was elected to the office of Mayor of Reading for one term, becoming the second Mayor of the city. Several years afterward, he took great, if not the principal, interest in establishing at Reading the Pennsylvania Military Institute, for the purpose of enabling young men to obtain education in military matters. In November, 1858, he was elected to Congress to fill the vacancy till March following, caused by the resignation of Hon. J. Glancy Jones—being the first and only Republican elected to represent Berks county in Congress. In 1859, he was elected Surveyor-General of the State for the term of three years, at that time holding the office of Major-General of militia, and while at Harrisburg, in 1860, he suggested to Governor Curtin that the Commonwealth should be put in a condition of defense, inasmuch as the signs of political discontent over the election of Lincoln indicated civil strife; and he recommended in that behalf a general encampment of the militia of the State. Governor Curtin accepted this timely suggestion, and an encampment was held at York in September, 1860, with General Keim as the chief in command. In January following, upon visiting his home at Reading, he called upon Capt. James McKnight (who commanded the Ringold Light Artillery, a company of volunteers in his brigade), and asked him to keep his company in readiness so as to be able to respond promptly to any order that might be given. Through this notice, the Ringold Light Artillery came to be the first company that responded to the President's call for troops in the Civil war and reported for duty at Harrisburg in April, 1861. General Keim offered his service when the crisis arose, and Governor Curtin appointed him to a command of the State troops under the first requisition of the President. After the campaign on the upper Potomac, he received from the President the appointment of Brigadier General of National troops. Resigning the office of Surveyor-General, he obeyed the order to join the Army of the Potomac. At the battle of Williamsburg, one of the most severe contests of the war, he distinguished himself. Although too sick to be on duty, he could not be prevented from leaving the hospital, and having mounted his horse he led his brigade on the field. His coolness, judgment and great bravery during the action were conspicuous. Though under fire nearly the whole time, he was perfectly calm. A bomb fell almost under his horse. Every one about him turned pale with fear. The explosion covered him with mud. After the battle, General McClellan called on him, complimented him for the great service which he had rendered, and ordered him to the post of honor in advance of the army. But the excitement incident to this battle aggravated his illness, and he was obliged to ask for a furlough. This was granted and he returned to Harrisburg, where his family had taken up a temporary residence. Unfortunately his health was too far gone, and he died May 18, 1862, in the very prime of life and usefulness, aged forty-eight years. The news of his death produced a profound sensation of regret throughout the Army of the Potomac. General McClellan was deeply affected by the loss of this faithful commander, and he, on May 26th following, issued general orders announcing his death and complimenting his faithful, patriotic services to his country, and these were read to every regiment in the army. His remains were brought to Reading, and buried with military honors in the Charles Evans cemetery.

JACOB RUSH, the first President Judge of Berks county, was born near Philadelphia in 1746, and was a brother of the celebrated artist and physician, Dr. Benjamin Rush. He received an excellent preparatory education and then entered the College of New Jersey, at Princeton, from which he was graduated in 1765. Immediately after the State Constitution of 1790 was adopted, he was appointed to preside over the Courts of the Third Judicial District, which included the county of Berks. He afterward became president judge of the First District (of which Philadelphia formed a part), and held that position for many years until the time of his death. He was a patriot of the Revolution, and in its darkest days stood firm to its principles. While president judge of the county he resided in Reading, on the west side of South Fifth street, between Cherry and Franklin streets. He died at Philadelphia Jan. 5, 1820.

GEN. GEORGE MAY KEIM was actively engaged in the financial, industrial, political, military and social life of Reading for upward of thirty years, dying suddenly in 1861, while co-operating in the organization of troops at Reading for service in the Civil war. He was born at Reading, March 23, 1805, and was a member of a family which has been settled in Berks county for over two centuries, being a lineal descendant of John Keim, who emigrated to America in the latter part of the seventeenth century, and was one of the first settlers in Oley township, this county. He took up land before 1718, and located in the upper section of the township, near what is now the village of Lobachsville, carrying on farming there until his death in 1732. In religion he was a Friend, a follower of Pastorius.

Nicholas Keim, son of John, was one of the earliest successful merchants of Reading. He was born in Oley township April 2, 1719, and engaged in farming until 1755, when he moved with his wife and only son to Reading, where he opened a general hardware store and also engaged in grain dealing, etc. In 1789 he purchased from Mark Bird the Weiser store stand, familiarly known as the "Old White Store," on Penn street, near Fifth, where he continued to do business successfully for a number of years. During that time he was one of the principal merchants of the place, and he had extensive transactions with the leading merchants of Philadelphia and Germantown, many prominent names appearing on his receipt books. In about 1785 he transferred the business to his only son, John, and retired from active life. He died Aug. 3, 1802, after a lingering illness. Mr. Keim was a progressive man, not only in the conduct of his own affairs, but also in the promotion of every cause affecting the development of the community in which he lived. He married Barbara Snyder, and they had one son, John. They lived in a large two-story stone dwelling located on the Northwest corner of Penn and Ninth streets.

John Keim continued in his father's footsteps as a successful merchant, but surpassed him greatly in the accumulation of property. He was born in Oley township July 6, 1749, and was six years old when the family removed to Reading, in whose development and commercial life he was destined to play so prominent a part. In the fall of 1777 he marched with the battalion of Lieut.-Col. Nicholas Lotz to reinforce the army under Washington, and was honorably discharged in 1782, after five years' service. After his return from the war he joined his father in the conduct of the general hardware store, of which he became sole proprietor in 1785, as previously related. About the year 1800, he took into partnership his two sons, Daniel and George, under the firm name of Keim & Sons, and they carried on the business for a number of years. Meantime John Keim was acquiring new and varied interests, and became prominently identified in different ways with the life of his adopted city. In 1787-90 he served a term as county commissioner, and he was also burgess for a time. He became a large property owner, and in the improvement of his own holdings saw the value of internal improvements in the city, of which he was an enthusiastic advocate. He built a num-



Leopoldine.

ter of dwelling-houses and put up the first three-story brick building in Reading, and he was accounted one of the wealthy men of Berks county in his day. In 1806 he leased to Charles Evans, Esq., the three-story brick building on South Fifth street which afterward became the property of Mr. Evans, who resided there for many years. Mr. Keim was prominently identified with the first steps taken toward the building of the Penn street bridge, lending all his influence to the project. He was a man highly respected and well thought of, for though strict in business and of the highest integrity he was never stern or unreasonable in his transactions. In an obituary notice which appeared in the *Berks and Schuylkill Journal* it was said: "He had resided in this borough for sixty-four years, during which time he amassed a large fortune, which never caused a widow's tear nor an orphan's execration. . . . What he has left behind him was justly his own. As a creditor he was ever lenient and his numerous tenantry can testify to his goodness as a landlord." He died Feb. 10, 1819, in his seventieth year, and was laid to rest in the Episcopal burial ground.

On Oct. 15, 1771, John Keim married Susanna de Benneville, through whom General Keim is of French-Huguenot extraction, she having been a daughter of Dr. George de Benneville. They had four children: Daniel de B., born Sept. 8, 1772, who died in 1833; George de B., who is mentioned further on; Benneville, born at Reading, Nov. 30, 1790, who died there Oct. 30, 1872; and Esther de B.

DR. GEORGE DE BENNEVILLE was one of the early practitioners of medicine in Oley township, where he was located before 1750. He was born in Loudon July 26, 1703, a descendant of George de Benneville, a Frenchman of Normandy, born in the city of Rouen. The Doctor's father, who bore the same name, was a "French refugee, who, being persecuted for his religion, retired with his family and connections into England upon invitation of His Majesty King William, who took a tender care of them and employed them at his court." After a varied career, in his thirty-eighth year (1741), with the aid of Queen Anne, of England, Dr. de Benneville came to Philadelphia. He was in failing health at the time of his arrival, but the changed environment was to bring renewed strength. Benneville was met at the wharf by Christopher Sauer, the printer of the oldest Bible in this country, who did not know him but was led to meet him by the influence of a dream. He took the stranger home with him and there Benneville met Jean Bertolet, of Oley, Berks county, where a colony of Huguenots had settled. The Bertolets had located there as early as 1726. Bertolet persuaded the Doctor to settle near him in the forest, and in 1745 he married Esther de Bertolet, daughter of Jean. While in Oley he taught school, practised medicine and preached the gospel, becoming the founder of the Universalist Church in America. He held the first meetings in the home which he had built (on the farm at one time owned by Daniel Knabb) near the "Oley line," for teaching the doctrines and beliefs of that religious denomination. The walls of this historic old de Benneville house in Oley township are still standing, although it was erected in 1745. He was there until 1755, when he moved to Branchtown, on the old York road, Philadelphia county, where he acquired an extensive medical practice. He died there in 1793, aged ninety years, and his wife died in 1795, aged seventy-five years.

Gen. George de Benneville Keim, second son of John Keim, was born at Reading Dec. 16, 1778, and received his education in the school held in the old Friends' meeting house. He was then sent by his father to Philadelphia, entering the large hardware establishment of the Chancellors, in order to familiarize himself with the business. When he returned to Reading, in his twentieth year, he was taken into partnership by his father, who carried on the business established at what was known as the "old white store." This building was the first business place at Reading. In addition to merchandising George de Benneville Keim also engaged in the manu-

facture of iron, being interested in the Reading Furnace and various forges. From 1809 to 1814 he did business in Philadelphia in connection with the export of bread stuffs. Many of his business interests were of direct benefit to this region, not only in the way of furnishing profitable employment to a large number, but also in introducing new industries, thus increasing the resources of the section materially. He was one of the first to attempt the cultivation of the grape and the manufacture of wine; he used his means and influence in raising the quality of the live stock in Berks county; and was active in promoting agricultural interests generally, owning several farms in Exeter township and vicinity. Mr. Keim served as president of the Branch Bank of Pennsylvania for over thirty years; he was one of the promoters of the Reading Water Company and its first president, filling that position for a long period.

Mr. Keim was the chief Burgess of Reading, served as president of the town council for many years, and was prominent in the development of the county and of Reading, not only in business affairs and as a factor in the local civil government, but also in the promotion of education and other matters affecting the broader development of the community. He took an earnest interest in the establishment of the Reading Academy and the Reading Female Seminary, both of which held an important place in the literary training of the young people of that day. The matter of local public improvements always received his hearty support, and he was active in the erection of bridges and the building of good roads, being for many years one of the managers of both the Perkiomen and Reading & Sunbury turnpikes. He was a zealous worker in Christ Church, and took an active part in the building of same, the lot for which was donated by a member of the Price family, to which his wife was related. All benevolent objects and worthy charities were encouraged and supported by him.

When the whiskey insurrection broke out, in 1794, Mr. Keim volunteered, serving in the government forces, and he always took the keenest pleasure in military matters. In 1821 he received the appointment of aid on the staff of Governor Hiester, with the rank of colonel; in 1830 he was elected major-general of the 6th Division, Pennsylvania Militia, succeeding his brother-in-law, Hon. Samuel D. Franks, and when he retired, five years later, was succeeded by his son, George M. Keim, who in turn was succeeded by his cousin, Gen. William H. Keim.

On Feb. 4, 1799, Mr. Keim married Miss Mary May, daughter of James May, and to them were born seven children, three sons and four daughters, namely: John M., George M., Daniel M., Ann, Susan, Catharine and Rebecca (m. Wirt Robinson, an eminent civil engineer of Richmond, Va.). George de B. Keim passed away Aug. 20, 1852, and his wife died in 1851.

JAMES MAY, father of Mrs. Mary (May) Keim, and maternal grandfather of Gen. George May Keim, was a well-known citizen of Reading. He was born March 20, 1749, in Coventry township, Chester county, Pa., son of Robert and Elizabeth May, and grandson of Robert May, who came to this province before the year 1700, and married a daughter of John Brooke. Mr. May was of Quaker ancestry. Prior to the Revolution he moved to Reading, where he ever afterward made his home, becoming one of the prominent citizens of that place. In the Act of 1783, incorporating Reading into a borough, he was named as one of the assistant burgesses, and he was particularly well known as an early advocate of public improvements in this section, being identified prominently with such ventures as the Union canal, Centre turnpike, etc. He was a general merchant and also dealt extensively in grain, lumber, etc., and was connected with various important institutions, being a director of the Branch Bank and a member of the first Board of Trade at Reading. He was one of the two wardens of the Episcopal Church, the other having been Marks John Biddle, Esq. His death occurred at Reading in 1819.

James May married Bridget Douglass, daughter of George Douglass, and by this union lost his birthright in

the Society of Friends, the Douglass family being Episcopalian. Their children were: Mary (m. George de B. Keim), George, Sarah (m. Hon. Samuel D. Franks), Thomas and Elizabeth.

George May Keim received his early education at home and at Bentley Hall, the school conducted by Joshua Hoopes, at Downingtown, Chester Co., Pa. In 1823 he was graduated at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa. He studied law under Charles Chauncey, Esq., at Philadelphia, where he was admitted to the bar June 5, 1826, being admitted to the bar in Berks county on Aug. 11th following. As a leader in important public affairs, in various business enterprises of note, and in the government of his country, he found this preparation of immense value. In fact he used his legal knowledge more in such ways than in direct professional labors. At the early age of twenty-two, in 1827, he was elected cashier of the Farmers' Bank of Reading, of which his uncle, Benneville Keim, was the president, and held that position until 1836. He held a substantial interest in many projects tending toward the commercial development of Reading, and encouraged the establishment of others. He aided in the erection of the first rolling-mill and nail works, owned by Keims, Whittaker & Co., and was a member of the firm of Jones, Keim & Co., who carried on the Windsor Furnace, in Windsor township. This firm had a reputation for its fine castings, made directly from the iron ore, notable among which was "The Last Supper," after Leonardo da Vinci. He understood thoroughly the value of agriculture in the economy of the county, and used his influence and means in raising the standards in various branches of farming. He introduced imported thoroughbred cattle into the county, and was one of the organizers of the Berks County Agricultural Society, delivering the address at its first annual meeting, Oct. 28, 1852. He was the second president of the society, serving as such for several years, and it was during his administration that the county commissioners leased to the society for ninety-nine years the "Commons" for the annual exhibitions. He made agricultural addresses in various parts of the State by request. Another source of revenue which he considered valuable in the State led him to an early investigation of her mineral resources, and he made a thorough study of the geology and mineralogy of the State, in the course which he acquired a comprehensive collection of minerals, including valuable specimens from all parts of the world. In this connection might be mentioned his Indian relics, which were principally from central Pennsylvania, and which after his decease were presented to the Smithsonian Institute. The minerals were given to Lehigh University. In 1829 General Keim was commissioner, and later for some years manager, of the Mill Creek and Mine Hill Navigation and Railroad Company.

General Keim early became identified with public affairs. He represented Berks county at the convention called to amend the State Constitution held during 1827-28, and his speech on banking attracted considerable and most favorable notice. His name appears among such distinguished ones as John Sergeant, Charles Chauncey, Thaddeus Stevens and George W. Woodward as a member of the committee of nine who issued a stirring address concerning the ways and means of providing for common school education and the general diffusion of useful knowledge, as well as the industry and pecuniary prosperity of the State. In 1828, when a vacancy occurred in Congress because of the resignation of Hon. H. A. Muhlenberg, who accepted the mission to Austria, General Keim was elected to fill out the term, and he was subsequently re-elected for two terms, remaining in Congress until March, 1843. At the election for Speaker of the House in the XXVth Congress he received a complimentary vote. During the XXVth Congress he distinguished himself in a patriotic speech against a petition praying for the dissolution of the Union. He declined re-nomination for a fourth term. In 1842, toward the close of his Congressional career, he presided at a dinner given to Charles Dickens in Washing-

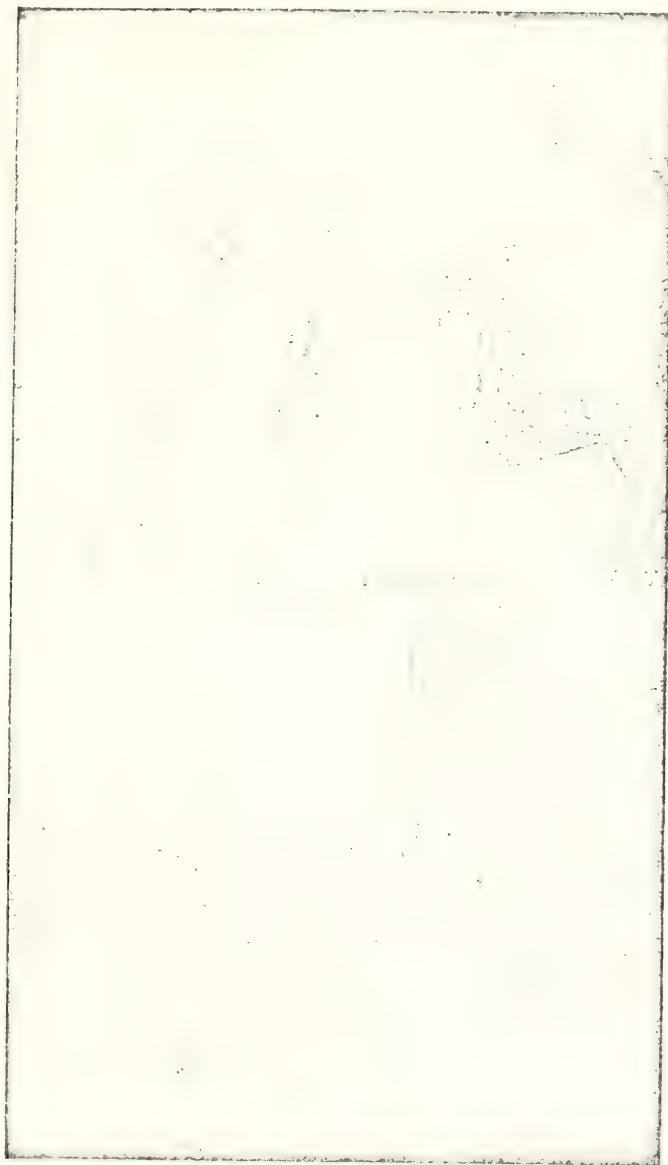
ton, in March of that year, when many men prominent in politics and letters were present to welcome the great author.

Upon his retirement from Congress the General was offered his choice of three positions by President Tyler, and he selected that of United States marshal for the Eastern district of Pennsylvania in order to remain at home. In 1844 he was re-appointed by Polk. Meantime he found his popularity throughout the State increasing steadily, and such was the confidence in his ability and integrity that he could have had the Democratic nomination for governor in 1848, but he would not consider the proposal. In 1852, upon the death of Mayor Getz, he was elected to fill the unexpired term, entirely without solicitation. In 1890, at the Democratic convention in Reading, he was elected a Presidential elector at large.

From early manhood General Keim manifested his interest in military matters. In 1830 he was elected captain of the Reading Artillerists, to succeed his uncle, Capt. Daniel de B. Keim, and not long afterward he became colonel of the 53d Regiment, Pennsylvania Militia. In 1835 he became major-general of the 6th Division, Pennsylvania Militia, which included the companies of Berks, Schuylkill, Dauphin and Lebanon counties, succeeding his father in that position. When the Civil war broke out he immediately identified himself with the Union cause, and he labored faithfully and zealously to hold the Democratic party in his county together in the trying period immediately preceding the war. In the spring of 1861 he raised a company of volunteers for home defense, and he was active and enthusiastic in drilling and preparing them for actual duties. One of the last acts he performed was to head a paper with his name, offering the services of this company to the government. It was undoubtedly the unusual exertion of this undertaking that brought on the stroke of paralysis from which his death soon ensued, on June 10, 1861, when he was fifty-six years old. He was buried at sunset on the 12th, in the Charles Evans cemetery, with military and Masonic honors. His funeral was one of the largest ever seen in Reading up to that time, his death being sincerely mourned throughout the State. The numerous enterprises he encouraged and supported won him friends in every walk of life, and his genial disposition, open-hearted and companionable nature, retained them forever.

General Keim married in 1827 Julia C. Mayer, youngest daughter of Hon. Christopher Mayer, of Lancaster, and six children survived them: George de Benneville, Charles Wetherill, Henry May, Julia Mayer (Mrs. Gustavus Augustus Behne), Susan Douglass and Mary May. Mrs. Keim died May 12, 1857. The sons have attained an eminence in the public life of the State worthy of the name and family traditions.

CONRAD WEISER was the most prominent historical character in the county of Berks previous to 1760. His great prominence arose from his intimate connection with the provincial government of Pennsylvania for thirty years. He was the principal judge of Berks county from 1752 to 1760. He was born Nov. 2, 1696, at Aftsaedt, a small village in the County of Herrenberg, in Wurtemberg, Germany, and there he acquired a general education, which included the principles of the Christian religion according to the catechism of Martin Luther. Whilst in his fourteenth year he emigrated with his father and family (which included himself and seven other children) to New York, landing June 17, 1710. At that time several thousand Germans were sent to America by Queen Anne. Shortly after their arrival they were removed to Livingstone Manor by the Governor of New York, to him to and cultivate hemp to defray the expenses incurred by Queen Anne in conveying them from Holland to England and from England to America. They labored till 1713, in this employment under the direction of commissioners; then, finding that they were existing under a form of bondage, they protested against the treatment and this



GRAVE OF CONRAD WEISER IN HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP

effected their release. About 150 families of them, including the Weiser family, removed to Schoharie, forty miles west of Albany. Whilst spending the winter of 1713-14 at Schenectady, the elder Weiser was frequently visited by an Indian chief of the Mohawk tribe, and during one of these visits the chief proposed to Conrad to visit the Mohawk country and learn the language of that tribe. This proposition was agreed to.

Conrad Weiser was in his eighteenth year when he went to live with the Indians. He was a strong young man, but all of his strength was necessary to endure the sufferings which he was compelled to undergo whilst living with them. He had scarcely clothing sufficient to cover his body during the winter of that trying year. Besides much suffering, he was frequently threatened with death by the Indians during a state of intoxication. In July, 1714, he returned to his father's home at Schoharie. In this time he had acquired a considerable knowledge of the Mohawk language, and while at home he increased this knowledge by acting as interpreter between the German settlers of that vicinity and the Mohawk Indians. The settlers having been disturbed in their possessions, Conrad Weiser's father and a number of others migrated to Pennsylvania. They located in Tulpehocken in the spring of 1723, in the midst of the Indians; and there they also commenced the improvement of the land without permission from the land commissioners. The Indians complained but the settlers were not disturbed. Subsequently the Indians released their rights and about 1733 they removed beyond the Blue Mountains.

Conrad Weiser was married to a young woman of Schoharie in 1720. He continued at that place till 1729, when with his wife and five children he removed to the Tulpehocken settlement, locating on a tract of land near the present borough of Womelsdorf. Shortly after his arrival, his ability and success as an Indian interpreter became known to the Provincial government, and the Governor employed him in negotiation with the Indians. His first services in this capacity were performed in 1731, and from that time for nearly thirty years he was almost constantly engaged in this important work. He assisted at numerous treaties, and in the published proceedings of these treaties his name appears prominently. His integrity was particularly recognized and publicly complimented.

He was one of the most prominent men in the French and Indian War. His numerous letters indicate his zeal, courage and patriotism. He served in the war as a colonel, and his services were of great value to the government and to the people of Berks county.

The first proceedings for the erection of Berks county were instituted in 1738. In this behalf Mr. Weiser was very active, and he continued active till the county was established in 1752. The town of Reading was laid out by the Penns in 1748, and in the sale of the town lots Mr. Weiser acted as one of the commissioners. He was prominently identified with the first movements in building up the town, and in developing the business interests of the place.

The Governor of the Province, in 1741, appointed him as a justice of the peace, and he filled this office for a number of years. When the county was erected in 1752, he was appointed one of the first judges. He acted as president judge of the courts till his decease in 1760. He lived at Reading mostly during the latter part of his life.

Conrad Weiser died on his Heidelberg farm July 13, 1760, and his remains were buried in a private burying-ground on the place, where they have remained since. He left a widow and seven children: five sons, Philip, Frederick, Peter, Samuel and Benjamin; and two daughters, Maria (m. Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg) and Margaret (m. a Finkler). He was possessed of a large estate, consisting of properties at Reading, and lands in Heidelberg township and in the region of country beyond the Blue Mountains. In Heidelberg he owned a tract which included the privilege of a "Court Baron," granted to him in 1723, the tract having originally contained 3,165

acres as granted to John Page in 1755, and having then been erected into a manor, called the "Manor of Plumton." At Reading one of his properties was a business stand, and it has continued to be a prominent business location from that time till now, a period embracing over 150 years.

For upward of fifty years, various unsuccessful efforts were made in behalf of erecting a suitable memorial to Conrad Weiser. In 1892 and 1893, the compiler of this history delivered a lecture before local teachers' institutes in different parts of the county entitled "Life and Times of Conrad Weiser" for the purpose of securing a memorial, and the Reading Board of Trade led the school authorities of the county to set aside November 2, 1893, for observance by the teachers and scholars as "Weiser Day," and to facilitate this observance 3500 copies of the lecture were distributed gratuitously to all the schools of the city and county. It was not until October 30, 1907, that a modest tablet was placed in the west wall of the Stichter Hardware Store on Penn Square by the Historical Society of Berks County, which reads as follows:

POSTERITY WILL NOT FORGET HIS SERVICES.—WASHINGTON.

In Memory of
COL. CONRAD WEISER.

PIONEER, SOLDIER, DIPLOMAT, JUDGE, AS INTERPRETER AND
INDIAN AGENT HE NEGOTIATED EVERY TREATY
FROM 1722 UNTIL NEAR THE CLOSE OF
THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.

THE WEISER BUILDING, WHERE HE OFTEN MET
THE INDIANS
IN CONFERENCE, WAS ERECTED BY HIM
ON THIS SITE IN 1751.

BORN IN GERMANY IN 1696, ARRIVED
IN BERKS IN 1729, DIED
IN 1760, NEAR WOMELSDORF, WHERE
HIS REMAINS ARE BURIED.

HIS UNSWERVING HONESTY SET A SHINING
EXAMPLE TO
FUTURE GENERATIONS.—UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BERKS COUNTY THIS
TABLET WAS ERECTED IN 1907 BY THE
SCHOOL CHILDREN OF THE COUNTY.

We append the autograph of this noted pioneer:

Conrad Weiser

WILLIAM MUHLENBERG HIESTER, son of the celebrated physician, Dr. Isaac Hiester, was born in Reading, May 15, 1818. His maternal grandfather was Gen. Peter Muhlenberg, of Revolutionary fame. His mother, Hetty Muhlenberg, died in 1872, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He received a preparatory training at the West Nottingham Academy in Maryland, and subsequently entered Bristol College in Pennsylvania, graduating in 1837, in the second and last class of graduates from that institution. He read law in the office of Judge Banks, attended a course of lectures in the Law Department of Harvard College, and was admitted to the Bar at Reading, Jan. 7, 1840. The honorary degree of A. M. was conferred upon him in 1843 by Harvard College. He practised his profession four years in Erie, Pa., in 1845 returning to Reading, and associating himself with the Hon. Henry A. Muhlenberg, and soon acquired a large practice. In 1852 he was elected by the Democratic party, as a member of the State Senate, and served until 1855, taking foremost rank among the Democratic members. At the opening of the session of 1855, after an exciting

contest, he was elected speaker of the Senate on the twenty-seventh ballot. His career as speaker was dignified, firm and impartial. In January, 1858, he was appointed secretary of the Commonwealth by Gov. William F. Packard, and continued in that office during the administration of three years. He supported Stephen A. Douglas for President of the United States in the campaign of 1860, but subsequently earnestly advocated the administration of Abraham Lincoln and was a warm friend of the Union. In the summer of 1863, when Pennsylvania was being invaded by General Lee, Mr. Hiester was appointed by Gov. Curtin one of the mustering officers, with the rank of major, to muster in troops that volunteered for ninety days' service, in response to the Governor's proclamation of June 26, 1863, calling for sixty thousand men. He was assigned to duty at the temporary rendezvous on the Agricultural Fair Grounds at Reading, which, in compliment to him, was designated Camp Hiester. In the execution of his military commission he mustered into the State service eight full regiments of volunteers, comprising an aggregate force of eight thousand men. After the war he supported the Republican party, and in 1864 was the Republican candidate for Congress in the Berks county District. After this event, he retired from participation in public affairs, and devoted his attention to the benevolent and business interests of his native city. He was a director in the Reading Library Company, in the Charles Evans Cemetery Company and the Reading Gas Company, and a liberal supporter of the public and private charities of the city. He died in Reading Aug. 16, 1878, leaving a widow and a son Isaac, who is a practising attorney at Reading.

JACOB SALLADE, son of Andreas and Eva (Schmidt) Sallade, was born at Womelsdorf (Middletown) July 13, 1789, and there educated. He was employed for a time as clerk in a general store of a brother of Governor Shulze, at that place, and also officiated as justice of the peace. In 1824 he received from Governor Shulze (with whom he was upon intimate terms, they having been brought up together in the same town) the appointment of clerk of the Orphans' Court and clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions, and then he removed to Reading. He held these offices for three years, after which he filled the office of prothonotary for three years—from 1826 to 1829—by appointment also from Governor Shulze. During the next ten years he was engaged in the general merchandise business at Reading, and he also served as a justice of the peace for a time.

In 1839 Gov. Joseph Ritner appointed him surveyor-general, and he continued to serve in this position for six years. During that time he resided at Harrisburg, and he died there shortly after his term expired. His remains were brought to Reading and buried in the Charles Evans cemetery. He was a man of fine personal appearance and enjoyed much popularity during his official career.

Mr. Sallade married Susanna Mayer and they had seven children, Maria Catharine, Andrew M. (an attorney at Reading), Charles M., Sarah, Susanna, Rebecca and Jacob M. (an attorney at Reading).

GOV. JOHN ANDREW SHULZE was not a resident of Berks county when elected Governor, but his birth and earlier life in the county entitle him to a place in this work. He was born in Tulphocken township, Berks county, July 19, 1775, son of Rev. Christian Shulze, a Lutheran clergyman. His mother was Eve Elizabeth Muhlenberg, the oldest daughter of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg. He was liberally educated in the ministry, and regularly ordained as a minister in 1796, and he assisted his father for eight years in the discharge of pastoral duties to several congregations in Berks, Lebanon and Lancaster counties. Owing to a rheumatic affection, he was obliged to relinquish preaching in 1801. He then moved to Myerstown, then in Dauphin county, and pursued the business of merchant. In 1806 he was elected a member of the State Legislature, and afterward twice re-

elected, serving his constituents with distinction for three terms. In 1813, upon the erection of Lebanon county, he was appointed to fill the office of prothonotary, in which he continued for eight years. In 1821 he was again elected to the Legislature, and in 1822 he was chosen senator, to represent the Senatorial district composed of Dauphin and Lebanon counties. Whilst serving as a senator he received the Democratic nomination for Governor, and was elected by a majority of 25,706 over Andrew Gregg, the Federal candidate; and in 1826 he was re-elected governor with little opposition. In 1829 he was again brought out as a candidate, but for the sake of harmony in the party he withdrew, and George Wolf was nominated and elected. Whilst acting as Governor he had the honor of tendering the courtesies of the State to General LaFayette, who was then upon his celebrated tour through the country. His administration of the affairs of the State government during his official career was distinguished for integrity, wisdom and statesmanship.

During President Jackson's opposition against the Bank of the United States, Governor Shulze left the Democratic party. But he was not active in political life after his retirement from the office of governor excepting on one occasion, in 1840, when he was a member of the Harrisburg Whig convention, which nominated General Harrison for President. In this connection he ran as a Senatorial elector upon the Harrison ticket, and was elected, and afterward officiated as president of the State Electoral College.

Upon retiring from office he removed to Lycoming county, where he continued to reside until 1846. During that period he was engaged in certain extensive speculations in this great and enterprising county, but he was not successful in them. Then he moved to Lancaster, where he continued to reside till his death, Nov. 18, 1852. He was a superior man, and he enjoyed the high esteem of his fellow-citizens for his many excellent personal and social characteristics. He was one of the few really prominent men whom this county has produced. His predecessor in the gubernatorial chair of this State was Joseph Hiester, who was elected to this high office from Berks county.

GEORGE EGE was born March 9, 1748, and died Dec. 14, 1829, aged eighty-one years, nine months. During his long and active business career he was extensively known as the largest landowner of his time in Berks county, and prominently identified with the iron interests of the county for a period of half a century. In 1774 he purchased an interest in Charming Forge for eight hundred and thirty-eight pounds. Nine months later he bought the remaining interest for one thousand six hundred and sixty-three pounds, and became its sole owner and manager. In 1804 he built and operated Schuylkill County Forge, near Port Clinton, then in Berks, now in Schuylkill county. At that time he was possessed of the following landed estates: Charming Forge, with four thousand acres; Reading Furnace, with six thousand acres; Schuylkill Forge, with six thousand acres; and four large farms in Tulphocken and Heidelberg townships, embracing one thousand acres. The names of these farms were "Spring," "Sheaff," "Leiss" and "Richards." In 1824 the assessed value of his personal and real estate was three hundred and eighty thousand dollars. During the Revolutionary war he was an ardent patriot, and in 1783 was a member of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania. In 1791 he was appointed one of the first associate judges of Berks county under the Constitution of 1790, and served continuously with marked ability until 1818, a period of twenty-eight years, when he resigned the position to devote himself exclusively to his extensive business interests. He died at his home at Charming Forge, in Marion township, Berks county, and his remains were interred in the cemetery at Womelsdorf.

Judge Ege married Elizabeth Oberfehl, of Amboy, N. J., by whom he had three children, George, Rebecca and Michael. There are no descendants of George now liv-

ing; Rebecca married Joseph Old and died without issue; Michael married Maria Margaretta Shulze, daughter of Rev. Mr. Shulze, pastor of Tulpehocken church. One of the grandchildren of Michael and Margaretta Ege, Harriet, married John Ermentrout, and lived at Reading to an advanced age.

CHARLES EVANS, founder of the superb cemetery at Reading which bears his name, was born in Philadelphia March 30, 1768. His parents were David Evans, of Philadelphia, and Letitia Thomas, of Radnor, both members of the Society of Friends. He received a good education, and when twenty years of age, entered the office of Benjamin Chew, Esq., a distinguished lawyer at Philadelphia, for the purpose of reading law. He was admitted to the Bar in June, 1791, and two months afterward went to Reading to practice law. In his profession he was faithful, capable and diligent. He continued in active business till 1828, and then retired with an ample fortune. In 1846 he founded the Charles Evans Cemetery, situated in Reading, and established it firmly by large donations of money and grants of property. He died Sept. 5, 1847, and was buried in the cemetery of his endowment. He married Mary Keene, daughter of Reynold Keene and Christiana Stille, his wife, both of Philadelphia. He was the first philanthropist at Reading. Strange to say, notwithstanding this incentive to others who have been engaged in business at Reading and accumulated fortunes, not a single individual since then has been moved to make a similar gift, donation or grant for a public cause.

GEN. JACOB BOWER, prominent Revolutionary hero and county official of Berks county, was born at Reading in September, 1757. When eighteen years old, he enlisted in the stirring cause of the Revolution, becoming sergeant in the company of Capt. George Nagel (the first company raised at Reading). He marched with this company to Cambridge, Mass., in July, 1775, and participated in the first battles for freedom in that vicinity. In July, 1776, he became captain of a company of the "Flying Camp" in the Pennsylvania line; and he afterward served as captain of different companies in the Continental line, until the close of the war for independence, in 1783. He was one of the American officers who organized the General Society of the Cincinnati, May 12, 1783, in the Continentment of the Hudson river; and he was one of the original members in the formation of the Pennsylvania State Society of the Cincinnati, which convened at Philadelphia, Oct. 4, 1783.

When the war was over, Captain Bower returned to Reading. After serving for some years as a clerk in the county offices, the Governor selected him to fill various local positions, in which he was active for some ten years, serving as sheriff from 1788 to 1790; as county commissioner, 1790-1793; as recorder, registrar and clerk of the Orphans' Court, 1792-1798; and as county auditor from 1799 to 1800. He was also delegated by the Governor in 1793 to act as one of the commissioners in the establishing of a branch bank of Pennsylvania at Reading.

Immediately after the Revolution, a complete system of militia was organized in Pennsylvania, and Captain Bower, on account of his former services, was selected as major of the 1st Regiment, Pennsylvania Militia, in Berks county. He kept up an active interest in the military affairs of the country until his decease. He participated also in the war of 1812-15, serving as brigadier general of the 1st Brigade, 6th Division, Pennsylvania Militia, by appointment of Governor Snyder. During the trying winter of 1777-78 at Valley Forge, General Bower was stationed there and his "Orderly Book," in which he kept a record of the transactions of the officers from April 9, 1778, to June 17, 1778, is an interesting relic consisting of two small volumes, and is still in the possession of the family.

General Bower resided at Reading until after 1800, when he removed to Womelsdorf, and he died at the latter

place, Aug. 3, 1818. The following obituary appeared in the *Berks and Schuylkill Journal*, published at Reading, Aug. 8, 1818:

"Died at Womelsdorf, in this county, on Monday last, after a tedious and severe illness, aged sixty-one years, Gen. Jacob Bower. The deceased was a faithful and active officer during the whole of the Revolutionary war. He sacrificed at the shrine of Liberty a large patrimony, but, like many other veterans of the Revolution, was doomed to feel the stings of adversity in his old age."

Gen. Bower married Rebecca Wood, daughter of Col. Joseph and Mary (Scull) Wood, the latter of Philadelphia. Colonel Wood died from wounds received at Fort Mifflin, in the Revolution. To this union were born six children. Among the many descendants still living are: Mr. Robert Scott Bower, of Philadelphia; Dr. William Bower and Mr. Addison Bower, of Myerstown, Pa.; Col. Thomas Potter, Jr., Quartermaster-General of Pennsylvania; Hon. William Potter, President of Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia and ex-United States Minister to Italy; Mr. Charles C. Potter, of Philadelphia; and Col. Henry A. Potter and Mrs. Stephen Jones Meeker, of Orange, N. J. We present General Bower's autograph herewith.

The father of General Bower and the ancestor of this prominent family of Pennsylvania was Conrad Bower, a pioneer settler of Reading, who became one of the city's largest property holders. He married Catherine Hoover, and they had the following children: Jacob; George; Catherine, m. John Spohn; Barbara, m. Henry Miller; Susanna, m. John Truckenmiller; and Eve, m. Michael Harvey. After the death of Conrad Bower in 1765, in the following year, his widow became the second wife of Michael Bright, a man of substance, and she died in 1814.

JEREMIAH HAGENMAN, third elected President Judge of Berks county, from 1875 to 1889, was born at Phoenixville, Pa., Feb. 6, 1820. He obtained a preparatory education in the schools of that town, and when sixteen years of age engaged in teaching; then he removed to Reading, where he entered the public schools and prosecuted higher branches of study till he was nineteen years old. He then began the study of law under Peter Filbert, Esq., teaching occasionally while pursuing his legal studies, and was admitted to the Bar April 7, 1842. He opened an office, and soon entered upon an active practice, which he conducted successfully for seventeen years, when he was elected additional law judge of Berks county. In 1845, upon the elevation of the Hon. Warren J. Woodward to the Supreme Bench of the State, he was promoted to the office of president judge, and in 1849 he was re-elected for another term of ten years. The attorneys always appreciated his courtesy on the Bench, and the younger attorneys found him possessed of a kindly spirit and great indulgence. He became interested in politics soon after his admission to the Bar, and was prominently identified with the movements of the Democratic party from 1850 till 1869. He attended many State Conventions as a delegate; and in 1868 was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. In 1850 he was elected the first district attorney (under the act then passed creating the office), and after serving three years was elected for a second term. The public school affairs of Reading, received his earnest attention for nearly forty

years, he having first become a director about 1846. He advocated the erection of more commodious and attractive school buildings; and in 1865 he first suggested the practicability of heating the buildings by heaters in the cellars. He served the county commissioners as solicitor for a number of years. About 1860 he was instrumental in having them to allow half of the court fines to be appropriated toward establishing a Law Library for the Bench and Bar in the court-house. John S. Richards, Esq., an attorney at the bar, suggested the idea. Subsequently legislation was obtained allowing this to be done, and a Law Library Association became incorporated.

In 1850 Judge Hagenman married Louisa A. Boyer, daughter of George Boyer, who was a descendant of one of the first families in the county and a prominent member of Trinity Lutheran congregation, having taken an active part in the erection of its church building in 1791. They had one son, George F. Hagenman, a practising attorney at the Reading Bar, who was killed in the Honda wreck, in California, May 11, 1907. Judge Hagenman died March 6, 1904, and his wife in 1901.

EDWARD B. HUBLEY was born at Reading in 1792, son of Joseph Hubley, a practising attorney of the Berks county Bar. He studied law with his father and was admitted to the Bar April 5, 1820. After practising at Reading for a while he moved to Orwigsburg, then the county-seat of Schuylkill county, and there continued his profession for a number of years. He represented that district in Congress for two terms, from 1835 to 1839. He held the appointment of canal commissioner of this State for several years, under Gov. David R. Porter, and acted as a commissioner of Indian affairs under President Polk. In all these positions he discharged his duties with ability and fidelity. About 1848 he returned to Reading and continued to reside here for eight years; he then removed to Philadelphia, and died there shortly afterward, Feb. 23, 1856, aged sixty-four years. He married Catharine Spayd, eldest daughter of Judge Spayd.

GEN. DAVID McMURTRIE GREGG, one of the most distinguished and widely known residents of the city of Reading, occupies an enviable place in the esteem of the people of the county and State as one of the best and most efficient officers from Pennsylvania in the Civil War. Educated at West Point and trained by actual experience in the United States regular army for a number of years, he was fully prepared to perform his part in preserving the Union. And in thus acting the part of a patriotic son of the nation, he rose to a high rank, creditable alike to his early training and his natural ability as a director and leader of men. General Gregg served during the entire war, and won promotion after promotion, being finally breveted Major General U. S. Volunteers, Aug. 1, 1864.

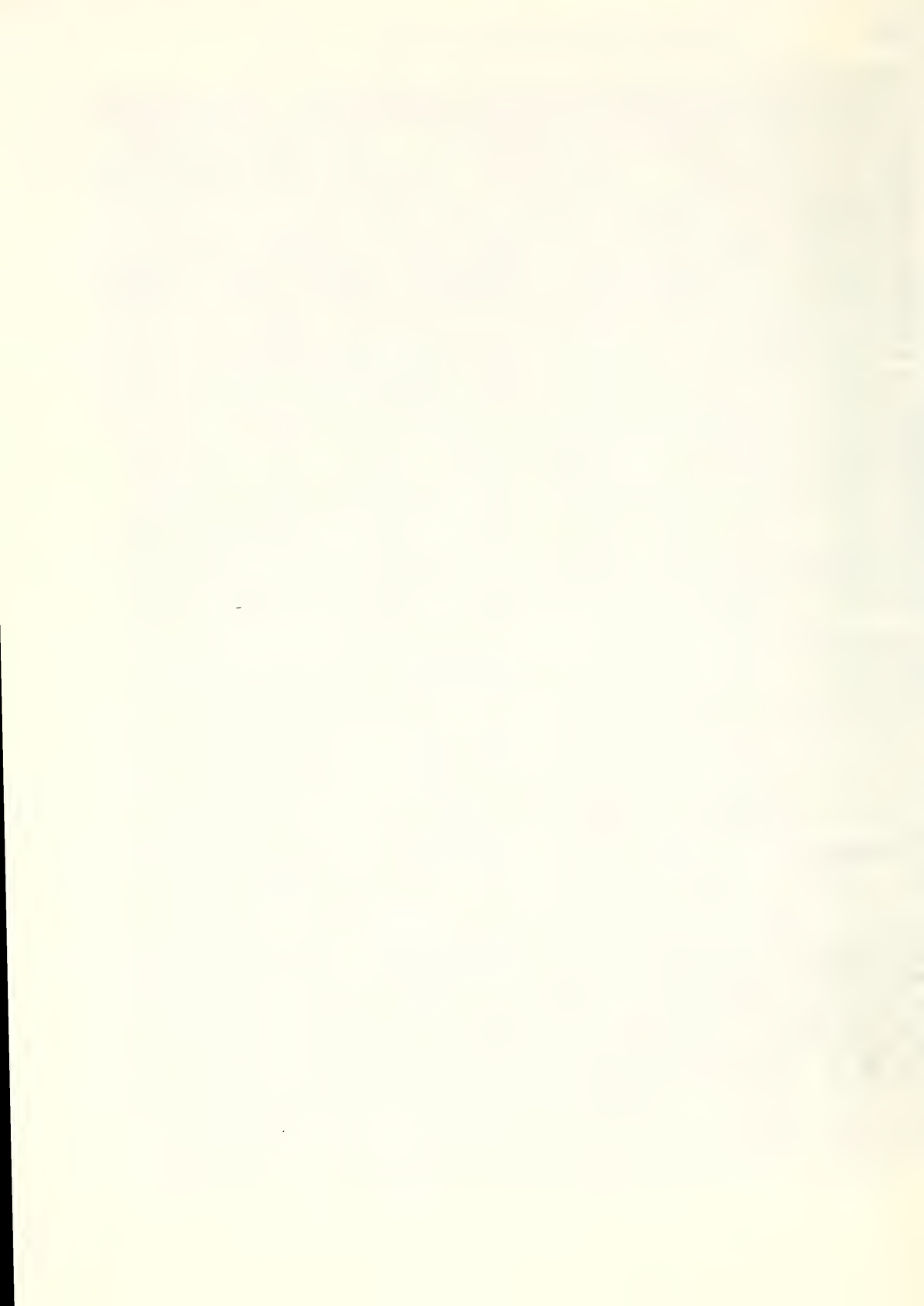
General Gregg was born in Huntingdon, Pa., April 10, 1833, son of Matthew Duncan and Ellen (McMurtrie) Gregg. On both sides of the house he comes of ancestors of whose records in civil and military life he may well be proud. The Gregg, Potter, McMurtrie and Elliott families, from whom General Gregg is directly descended, all settled in the colony of Pennsylvania at a very early date, and had much to do with the development and improvement of the Keystone State. The first Gregg ancestor of whom there is any sure knowledge was David Gregg, who was born at Ayrshire, Scotland, about 1630. He was a Captain in Cromwell's army in 1653, and was within the walls of Londonderry during the great siege of 1688-89 as a faithful supporter of the Prince of Orange, William III., against the exiled King of England, James II. Both David and his son John, who was born near Londonderry in 1665, were killed by a party of Roman Catholics in one of the conflicts that were constantly occurring between the Orangemen and the Romanists in the North of Ireland.

John Gregg's two sons, David and Andrew, and their sister Rachel, Mrs. Solomon Walker, and her husband, came to America in 1726, first settling in New Hamp-

shire, where David remained. Andrew and Mr. Walker, becoming dissatisfied, left there and landing at Newcastle, Del., finally located on a tract at Chestnut Level, Lancaster county, Pa. In 1748, he purchased and moved to a plantation near Carlisle, where he remained until his death, that event occurring in 1789. His first wife having died at Chestnut Level, leaving six children, he married Jean Scott (1725-1783). To the second union were born Andrew and Matthew.

Andrew Gregg, grandfather of General Gregg, was born June 10, 1755, near Carlisle, Pa., and died May 30, 1835, at Bellefonte, Pa. He received his early training at Rev. John Steel's Latin school in Carlisle, and completed his education at Newark, Del. While a resident of that place he served a considerable period in the militia of the Revolution. In 1779, he accepted a tutorship in a college, now the University of Pennsylvania. In 1787 he married Martha Potter, daughter of General James Potter, and in 1789 removed to Penn's Valley, Center county. In 1791, he was elected to the Lower House of Congress, and remained a member until 1807, when he was chosen United States Senator, his term of office ending in 1813. In 1820, he was appointed Secretary of the State of Pennsylvania by Gov. Joseph Hiester, and in 1823 was nominated for Governor on the Federal ticket in opposition to John Andrew Shultz, but was defeated in the ensuing election. There were born to Andrew Gregg and wife, Martha Potter, ten children, as follows: Mary married William McLanahan; Jean m. Roland Curtin (of their children, Andrew Curtin was the war Governor of Pennsylvania); Martha m. Dr. Constans Curtin, brother of Roland; Eliza m. David Mitchell; Juliana m. General James Irvin; Andrew m. Margaret Irvin, sister of General Irvin; James P. m. Eliza Wilson; Matthew Duncan, Gen. Gregg's father, m. Ellen McMurtrie; Sarah m. Henry Kinney; and Margery m. Rev. Charles Tucker. The mother of this large and illustrious family, Martha (Potter) Gregg, was born April 10, 1769, and died Aug. 20, 1815.

John Potter, grandfather of Martha (Potter) Gregg, emigrated from County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1741, being accompanied by his sister Isabella, and her husband John Hamilton. They landed in Newcastle, Del., in September, 1741. In 1746, Mr. Potter settled in Antrim township, Franklin county, Pa., near the village of Greencastle. He was the first sheriff of Cumberland county. In September, 1756, he became a captain in Lieutenant Colonel Armstrong's expedition against Kittanning. The date of his death is unknown. His wife died in 1778. Of their eight children, James was born on the bank of the Foyle, Tyrone, Ireland, in 1729, and came to America with his father in 1741. On Feb. 17, 1756, he was commissioned ensign in his father's company, Lieut. Armstrong's Battalion, and served in the Kittanning expedition, in which campaign he was wounded. He was promoted to the position of Captain Feb. 17, 1759, and commanded three companies on the northern frontiers. Captain Potter removed to Sunbury in 1768. In 1775 occurred the stirring events of Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill, which aroused every patriotic son of Pennsylvania, and hurried them into a conflict which finally resulted in the recognition of American Independence. Captain Potter was among the first to offer his services for the struggle then so doubtful, and on Jan. 24, 1776, he was elected Colonel of the Upper Battalion, and in July of that year he became a member of the Constitutional convention. He was in command of a Battalion of Northumberland County militia in the battle of Trenton, Dec. 26, 1776, and at Princeton Jan. 3, 1777; and on April 5, 1777, was appointed third Brigadier General of the militia of the State, commanded a brigade at Brandywine and Germantown, and served in the outposts at Valley Forge. In 1780, when residing at Middle Creek, Snyder county, he became a member of the State council, and on Nov. 14, 1781, was elected Vice-President of Pennsylvania. He was unanimously elected Major General May 23, 1782, and in 1784 was elected a member of the council of Censors.



General James Potter first married Elizabeth Cathcart. His second wife was Mrs. Mary Chambers, daughter of James and Mary Patterson. Mary Patterson, whose maiden name was Stewart, was a granddaughter of George Stewart, who settled in Conestoga township, Chester county, in 1717. To General Potter and his wife Mary were born three daughters and one son; of this family Martha became the wife of Andrew Gregg, and was the grandmother of General David McM. Gregg. At his death General Potter possessed an immense landed estate in Penn's Valley, Center county.

Matthew Duncan Gregg was born April 5, 1804, in Penn's Valley, Center county, and fitted himself for the legal profession, being admitted to the Bar at Huntingdon in 1825. In 1828, he was united in marriage with Ellen McMurtrie, daughter of David and Martha (Elliott) McMurtrie, of Huntingdon. From that place he moved first to Pine Grove Mills, Center county, and in 1838 took up his residence in Bellefonte, where he engaged in the iron business. In 1845, in connection with his brother James P., and his brother-in-law David Mitchell, he purchased the Potomac Furnace, in Loudoun county, Va. Nine children were born to the union of Matthew D. Gregg and Ellen McMurtrie, as follows: Martha, born May 25, 1829, m. Richard R. Bryan; Andrew, born May 28, 1831; Gen. David; Mary, born Aug. 20, 1834, m. G. Dorsey Green; Ellen, born Dec. 24, 1836; George, born Feb. 10, 1838; Henry H., born March 19, 1840, m. Rose Mitchell; Thomas L., born Oct. 8, 1842, m. Bessie D. McKnight; and Olliepa, born Aug. 10, 1844, died Dec. 23, 1848. On July 25, 1845, Matthew Duncan Gregg died, and in August of the same year occurred the death of his brother, James P., both being buried in a churchyard between Leesburg and Point of Rocks, Va. Ellen Gregg, the mother, died at Bedford, Aug. 17, 1847, and is buried at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania.

David McMurtrie, Ellen McM. Gregg's grandfather, was born at Ayr, Scotland, about 1709, and came to America in 1735, settling in Philadelphia, where he engaged in selling merchandise. On March 18, 1754, he married Margery Fisher at Cooper's Ferry, now a part of Philadelphia, and his children were as follows: William, born May 15, 1757; David, Jan. 14, 1764; Charles, July 21, 1766; and James, Dec. 16, 1768. Just before the Revolution David McMurtrie moved to Bedford, now Huntingdon county, and began the improvement of large tracts of land, owned by him on Shaver's creek and in the town of Huntingdon. He died in 1782.

David McMurtrie, the son of the above-mentioned pioneer, was born in Philadelphia and went to Huntingdon with his father, where he became a merchant, carrying on his business first in Huntingdon, then in Petersburg, and again in Huntingdon. He was a member of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania in 1802. He married Martha Elliott, daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Carpenter) Elliott, and they had the following children: James E.; Anna m. (first) Ed. Patton, (second) Thomas Jackson; Mary m. James Gwin; Ellen, born Jan. 3, 1802, m. Matthew D. Gregg, and died Aug. 17, 1847; David m. Martha McConnell; Benjamin E. (first) m. Sarah H. Orbison, and (second) Mrs. Ellen Patton Dorsey; Margery; Robert Allison m. (first) Sarah Briscoe, (second) Mrs. Maria Dennison; Martha m. James McCahen; and William m. Margaret Whittaker.

Robert Elliott, great-grandfather of General D. McM. Gregg's mother, through Martha Elliott McMurtrie, was born prior to 1730, but it is uncertain whether his birthplace was in America or Ireland. His home was in Peters township, Cumberland (formerly Lancaster) county. He was twice married, the issue of his first marriage being two sons—Benjamin and George—and his two daughters—Barbara and Jane. Benjamin Elliott was born in 1752, in Peters township, Cumberland (now Franklin) county, and became a resident of Huntingdon in 1775. When but twenty-four years of age, he was elected one of the delegates from Bedford county, Huntingdon being then in that county, to the convention, which met July 15, 1776, at Carpenters Hall, Philadelphia, for the pur-

pose of framing the first constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He was sheriff of Bedford county in 1784-85, and became the first sheriff of Huntingdon county in 1787. In that year he was also elected a delegate from Huntingdon county to the Pennsylvania convention which ratified the Federal constitution. He was elected a member of the Supreme Executive Council from Huntingdon county, Oct. 31, 1789, and served until Dec. 20, 1790, when the Council's term of office expired by reason of the election of Governor Mifflin. He held several county offices in Huntingdon county, including that of Associate Judge. He died in Huntingdon, March 15, 1835, and was laid to rest in Fairview cemetery. He was thrice married. His first wife was Mary Carpenter, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Herr) Carpenter, and a granddaughter of Heinrich Zimmerman, who was born in Switzerland, in 1675, and who made his first trip to America in 1698, returning to his native place in 1700. This gentleman married Salome Ruffner. Being a physician, he practised his profession until 1795, when having engaged in a conspiracy against the government he was compelled to flee the country for safety. He accordingly came to America, where he settled in Germantown. In 1710, he began to acquire lands in Lancaster county, and in 1717, he moved there. He died about 1750, leaving a large estate to his heirs. Benjamin Elliott and his wife Mary had three children, namely: Martha, born in 1779, m. David McMurtrie, and died in 1841; Mary, born in 1781, m. Robert Allison, and James prepared for the legal profession, but died young and unmarried. Benjamin Elliott's second wife was Sarah Ashman, and his third Susan Haines.

General Gregg spent his earlier boyhood with his father's family in Bellefonte, Harrisburg and Hollidaysburg. In April, 1845, the family removed to Potomac Furnace, Loudoun county, Va. When, in the following July, the father died, the widowed mother, with her nine children returned to Hollidaysburg; her death occurred at Bedford in August, 1847. David then became a member of the family of his uncle, David McMurtrie, living in Huntingdon, and for two years attended the school of that excellent teacher, Mr. John A. Hall. From this school he went to Millwood Academy, in the lower end of Huntingdon county, and a year later joined his elder brother, Andrew at the University at Lewisburg. While at the University he received an appointment as cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point, which he entered July 1, 1851. He graduated in June, 1855, standing eighth in a class of thirty-four members; among his classmates being Generals Averill, Webb, Rugles and Comstock, all prominent officers in the Union Army in the War of the Rebellion, and General Nichols, of the Confederate army. He became Second Lieutenant of Dragoons, July 1, 1855, and served in garrison at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., in 1855-56, being commissioned Second Lieutenant of First Dragoons, Sept. 4, 1855. In 1856, he was assigned to frontier duty in the West and on the Pacific coast, and remained there until the outbreak of the Civil War recalled him to the East. He was stationed at Fort Union, New Mexico, in 1856, took part in the march to California in the same year; was at Fort Tejon, Colo., in 1856-57; Fort Vancouver, Wash., in 1857-58; and at Fort Walla Walla, Wash., in 1858. He took part in the Spokane expedition of 1858, being engaged in a desperate combat with the Indians at To-ho-nimne, Wash., May 17, 1858; was present at the combat of Four Lakes, Wash., Sept. 1, 1858; and skirmish on Spokane river Sept. 8, 1858. He was on frontier duty at Fort Walla Walla, in 1859; at Fort Dallas, Oregon, 1859-60; was scouting against the Snake Indians in 1860, being engaged in a skirmish near Hamoy Lake, Oregon, May 24, 1860. The winter of 1860-61 was spent in duty on the Warm Spring reservation.

General Gregg became first Lieutenant of the First Dragoons on March 21, 1861, and was made Captain in the Sixth Cavalry on May 14, 1861. During the first months of the war he saw duty in the defenses of Washington, D. C., and throughout the remainder of the war was con-

joined with the Army of the Potomac. From Oct. 12, 1861, till January, 1862, he was on sick leave. He became Colonel of the Eighth Regiment, Pa. Vol. Cavalry, Jan. 24, 1862, and took part in the Virginia Peninsular campaign. He was engaged in the battles of Seven Pines and Fair Oaks, May 31 and June 1, 1862, skirmishes at New Kent Courthouse, Savage Station, Bottom's Bridge, and White Oak Swamp, June, 1862, battle of Glendale, June 30, 1862, Malvern Hill, July 1, 1862, and covering the movement from Harrison's Landing to Yorktown, August, 1862. He was in the Maryland campaign of the Army of the Potomac, which extended from September to November, 1862, being engaged in several skirmishes on the march to Falmouth, Va., in October and November. On Nov. 29, 1862, General Gregg was commissioned Brigadier General U. S. Volunteers. From December, 1862, to June, 1863, he commanded a Division of Cavalry, being engaged in the skirmish at Rappahannock bridge, April 4, 1863, and "Stoneman's Raid" toward Richmond, April 13 to May 2, 1863. The Pennsylvania campaign of the Army of the Potomac was participated in by General Gregg still as a division cavalry commander; he was engaged in the combat of Brandy Station, June 9, 1863, skirmish at Albemarle, June 17, Middleburg, June 19, Upperville, June 21, and the battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 2 and 3. He was in the skirmish at Shepherdstown, July 16, and took part in the pursuit of the Confederates to Warrenton, Va., closing the campaign in the latter days of that busy month.

Central Virginia then became the scene of operations for the Army of the Potomac, and General Gregg there participated in the action at Rapidan Station, Sept. 14, Beverly Ford, Oct. 12, Auburn, Oct. 14, and New Hope Church, Nov. 27, 1863. From March 26 to April 6, 1864, General Gregg was in command of the Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Potomac, and in the Richmond campaign from April 6, 1864, to Feb. 3, 1865, was in command of the Second Cavalry Division of the Army of the Potomac, being engaged in the skirmishes at Todd's Tavern May 5-7, 1864, where he was in command, Ground Squirrel Church May 11, combat at Meadow Bridge May 12, battle of Haws Shop May 28, skirmish of Gaines House June 2, battle of Trevillian Station June 11, action of St. Mary's Church June 24, where he was in command, skirmish at Warwick Swamp July 12, combat of Darbytown July 28, skirmish at Lee's Mills July 30, 1864. On Aug. 1, 1864, General Gregg came into command of the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac, being brevetted on that date Major General U. S. Volunteers, for "highly meritorious and distinguished conduct throughout the campaign, particularly in the Reconnaissance on the Charles City road." On Aug. 17, 1864, he was in the action at Deep Bottom, skirmishes and battle of Ream's Station Aug. 23-25, combat of Peebles' Farm Sept. 29 and 30, of the Vaughan Road Oct. 1, where he was in command, the battle of Boydton Plank Road Oct. 27, destruction of Stony Creek Station Dec. 1, and skirmish at Bellefield Dec. 9, 1864, which terminated General Gregg's active work in the army. He resigned from the service Feb. 3, 1865.

General Gregg's brothers, Henry II, and Thomas I, were both in the Union army and served three years, the former as Captain in the 125th P. V. I., and as Major in the 13th P. V. C., the latter as Lieutenant in the 6th P. V. C., and as Aide-de-camp on his brother's staff.

In February, 1871, President Grant appointed General Gregg U. S. Consul at Prague, Bohemia, which position he resigned and returned to Reading in the following August, where he has since made his home. In 1891, he was nominated by the Republican party as its candidate for Auditor General of Pennsylvania, was elected, and made a splendid record in his three years of service. He was elected Commander of the Pennsylvania Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States in 1886, and was continued in office by successive elections every year until 1901, when he was elected Commander in Chief of the Order. He is President of the Board of Directors of the Charles Evans Cemetery Com-

pany of Reading, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the State Lunatic Hospital at Harrisburg. General Gregg has the right to append LL. D. to his name, that honor having been conferred on him by the Pennsylvania Military College, at Chester, Pennsylvania.

On Oct. 6, 1862, General Gregg married Ellen J. Shaffer of Reading, a great-granddaughter of Frederick A. Muhlenberg, as also of Gov. Joseph Hooper. They have two sons, namely: George Sheaff and David McMurtrie.

Thus is presented in measurably full detail the career of one of the most noted of Reading's citizens, belonging to Reading first, but in a larger and better sense to the State and nation. With a glorious record of duty faithfully done, General Gregg is serenely passing the evening of life amid the scenes of its former activities, and is showered on every side with the plaudits of a grateful people.

GEORGE BROOKE bears a name so intimately connected with the development of Birdsboro that a history of the recent generations of the Brooke family would be a nearly complete history of that borough. And no account of that borough, in the last hundred and more years, could be written without frequent reference to the achievements and efforts of the Brookes in every phase of its evolution from a settlement of a few houses to one of the finest boroughs in Berks county. The Brookes have ever been noted for intelligence and general excellence of character, proved in the wise administration of large interests, whose prosperity has had a direct bearing upon the public moral and material welfare as well as upon their own fortunes. They have also been noted for their unselfish public spirit, their means and influence having always been given liberally to the promotion of all projects tending toward progress, enlightenment and the general improvement of the conditions affecting the daily life, comfort and happiness of the mass of humanity. To the brothers, Edward and George Brooke, especially, is the borough indebted for many of its best advantages.

The Brookes are of English descent, the founders of the family in this country having come hither from Yorkshire, England, in 1698. John and Frances Brooke, with their two sons, James and Matthew, arrived in the Delaware river that year, but because of a contagious disease aboard their vessel the passengers were not allowed to come to Philadelphia, disembarking lower down the river. The parents died there soon afterward, and were buried in the graveyard at Haddonfield, N. J. They belonged to the Society of Friends, and before leaving England John Brooke had purchased of William Penn 2,500 acres of land, to be taken up anywhere where vacant land might be found between the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers. Accordingly the sons James and Matthew took up the land in what is now Limerick township, Montgomery county, Pa., where they settled.

Matthew Brooke, grandson of the Matthew who came over with his father in 1698, was the third in direct line to bear the name. He was the father of Edward and George Brooke, and was reared near Limerick. In 1796 he purchased a farm at Birdsboro, Berks county, and in 1800, in partnership with his brother, Thomas Brooke, and their brother-in-law, Daniel Buckley, purchased the Hopewell Furnace. From that time to the present the family has been prominently identified with the locality. Matthew Brooke occupied the old mansion house built by William Bird, the original proprietor of this property, in 1751, a beautifully located residence facing the Schuylkill river, to whose banks the lawn stretched. On the side of the estate which lay along the shores of Hay creek, just where it emptied into the Schuylkill, was a grove of beautiful old trees, which one of the Birds fenced in and used as a deer park. When the canal was built in front of the house the place was no longer desirable for residential purposes, and the family moved to a house down near the lower forge, which was torn down in 1879 to make room for the enlargement of the rolling-mill. Matthew Brooke



Geo Brooke

continued to operate the iron industries successfully until his death, in advanced age. He had led an active life in many ways, having served the Colonial forces during the Revolution when a mere boy, and while in the army was captured and held prisoner, but finally exchanged. His business energies, while devoted chiefly to the iron works, were not confined to any one channel, and he was one of the first stockholders of the Farmers National Bank of Reading, one of the most important financial institutions of that city at the present day. He was an Episcopalian in religious connection. He married Elizabeth Barde, like himself a native of Pennsylvania, daughter of Captain John Louis Barde, who came to Birdsboro in 1788, and for several years ran the old forges under a lease, in 1796 purchasing them with two thousand acres of land from James Wilson (a son-in-law of Mark Bird), one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. This land formed a part of the original Bird properties of Birdsboro, and Captain Barde lived on it until his death in 1799. Captain Barde had an interesting career. Born in Geneva, Switzerland, he was educated in the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, England, entered the English army, and accompanied the expedition to America to operate against the Spaniards in their attack on Pensacola in about 1779. He married the daughter of Maj. Robert Farmer, the English governor of West Florida, came north in 1782, and selling his commission became a citizen of the United States. His property came into the hand of his son-in-law, Matthew Brooke. Matthew and Elizabeth (Barde) Brooke had a family of five children, two daughters dying young. The others were: Elizabeth, who became the wife of the Hon. Hiestor Clymer of Reading; Edward, deceased; and George.

George Brooke was born July 26, 1818, at Birdsboro, and has passed all his life in that place. He also has a residence in Philadelphia, where he sometimes passes a few winter months. He was educated in the schools of Reading, Lititz and West Chester, Pa., and afterward attended at Burlington, N. J., finishing his education at a private school in Philadelphia. He ranked well in English, Latin and French, but showed a marked proficiency in mathematics, drawing, mineralogy and mechanics. The close of his school days marked his return to Birdsboro, and he at once plunged into the iron business, learning every detail of the immense concern ruled over by his father. On April 1, 1837, he and his brother Edward succeeded to their father's interests in the iron industry at that point, the works at that time comprising two forges—one the "refinery," where the pig-iron was converted into "anchovies" (blooms hammered down into a bar at one end for convenience in handling), and the "chafery," where they were heated and hammered into various kinds of bar-iron. At that time the entire output amounted to only two hundred tons annually. Under the firm name of E. & G. Brooke, the brothers developed the property, continuing to do business together until the death of Edward Brooke, Dec. 25, 1878. They built the Edward Brooke residence and a large flour mill, the latter begun in 1844 and completed in 1845. In the fall of 1844, while it was in course of construction, a Henry Clay meeting was held in the mill, there being no hall here at the time large enough for the purpose. In 1879 and again in 1882 the mill was remodeled, being supplied with modern machinery and steam-power, and meantime had been greatly enlarged, the present structure being the third to occupy the site. Following the erection of the mill the brothers extended the iron business, in 1846 putting up a charcoal furnace on the site of the old Hampton forge, in order to use their wood in the manufacture of pig-iron instead of operating the forges. In 1848 they commenced to build the rolling-mill and nail factory, which were completed and put in operation the following year. In 1852 No. 1 Anthracite Furnace was built, and two more furnaces were erected in 1870 and 1872, respectively, the capacity of the plant being increased steadily until the annual product now amounts to more than one hundred thousand tons of

pig-iron and two hundred and fifty thousand kegs of nails, besides muck-bar and skelp iron. In the latter eighties a steel plant was erected at No. 2 Blast Furnace, to convert the molten iron directly into steel for the manufacture of nails. A new train of rolls was also put into the rolling-mill, as well as other devices for the working of steel.

In alliance with their furnaces the firm of E. & G. Brooke acquired a half interest in the French Creek, Warwick and Jones mines, which lie between ten and fifteen miles south of Birdsboro, and whence the greater part of the raw product comes, the Wilmington & Northern road connecting the two properties. In 1864 E. & G. Brooke, associated with Seyfert, McManus & Co. and Samuel E. Griscorn, opened the William Penn Colliery, near Shenandoah, in Schuylkill county. E. & G. Brooke subsequently becoming sole owners of the colliery, which was and still is one of the best mines in the coal region. In 1887 they sold the colliery to interests identified with the Pennsylvania Railroad. These iron works and mines form one of the most valuable industrial factors in this section of Pennsylvania, affording profitable employment to thousands of hands. Many of the houses occupied by the employees are owned by them, and about two hundred and fifty houses occupied by the men are owned by the company. After the death of Edward Brooke the concern was organized into two companies, the E. & G. Brooke Iron Company and the E. & G. Brooke Land Company, none of the property, however, changing hands. George Brooke became president of both companies, with George W. Harrison as treasurer and Richard T. Leaf as secretary.

Mr. Brooke has been identified with numerous other interests in Berks county and also in other localities, his business affairs covering a wide range, and he has likewise found time for active participation in the public and social life of his section. He and his brother were among the original projectors of the First National Bank of Reading, of which he has been president these many years; he was one of the founders of the Pennsylvania Trust Company, another substantial financial institution of Reading, of which he is president; is a director of the Wilmington & Northern Railway Company and the Schuylkill Navigation Company, treasurer of the Keystone Coal Company of West Virginia, and president of the Birdsboro Steel Foundry & Machine Company. The last named company in 1885—then known as the Diamond Drill and Machine Company—was moved to Birdsboro from Pottsville, being located in the old plant of the Birdsboro Iron Foundry Company, whose buildings were sold to E. & G. Brooke in 1871, standing idle from that time until their occupation by the present company. From a small concern whose business was the manufacture of diamond drills it has grown to its present size. It is now one of the largest machine shops in eastern Pennsylvania, comprising machine shops and iron and steel foundries. The steel foundry was added in 1903 and is one of the largest and most modern of steel casting plants. All manner of steel casting, for both private and government work, is turned out. The company manufacture all kinds of machinery, taking contracts for the building of rolling-mills of the largest sizes, besides building a number of special machines. They also still make the celebrated diamond drills, which are sold in all parts of the world. When these works are running full they employ about eight hundred men.

Mr. Brooke also was the originator of the borough water supply. Through the E. & G. Brooke Iron Company large reservoirs were built about two miles south of the town up in the hills and an abundant water supply of the purest kind was obtained from the mountain streams and brought to the borough in two large water mains. For the better conducting of its business this water department of the Iron Company was in 1900 turned into a separate company, known as the Birdsboro Water Company. The town of Birdsboro is surely most fortunate in having such a pure and abundant supply

of water. The pressure is so great that a stream of water can be thrown over the tallest buildings.

Thus it will be seen that Mr. Brooke's interests, though covering so wide a range, are all more or less closely allied, his connection and familiarity with the various side industries concerned in the successful operation of his main business facilitating its conduct greatly.

In 1837 the Brookes opened a store in the old mansion, soon afterward removing to a regular store-room which they erected at the canal lock, and in 1875 they erected a fine store property, which was burned out when nearly ready for business. It was immediately rebuilt, and not only affords spacious store room but also contains the large auditorium known as Brooke Hall, located in the third story of the building. George Brooke was also one of the founders of the First National Bank of Birdsboro, of which he served as president for a time, being succeeded by his son Edward. Mr. Brooke is a member of the Manufacturers Club, and also of the Union League, the Sons of the Revolution and the Society of Colonial Wars. He is also affiliated with the Masonic fraternity.

When the borough of Birdsboro was incorporated Edward Brooke was elected burgess, and George Brooke has served repeatedly in the town council, of which he was president for many years. He has also given efficient service on the borough school board, taking especial interest in the question of public education, and in this connection may also be mentioned his services on the board of directors of the library opened and conducted under the auspices of St. Michael's Episcopal Church. He was influential in the establishment of that church, which grew out of a mission established at Birdsboro by St. Gabriel's Church, Douglassville, and was one of its first vestrymen, still serving as such. In politics he is an ardent Republican.

Mr. Brooke is a courteous, affable gentleman, a type of the highest American citizenship, active and useful in every enterprise with which he has been connected, and serving his fellow-men while forwarding his own interests. He has traveled extensively in Europe, and has visited every State in the Union. He has always been fond of outdoor life, and in his early days was proficient in all kinds of sport. Though over ninety years of age he "virtually oversees all of his vast business interests, finds time to assist in the advising of other operations and maintains complete control of the details incident to the management of his large private fortune."

In 1862 Mr. Brooke married Mary Baldwin Irwin, daughter of John H. Irwin, and granddaughter of Capt. Stephen Baldwin, a ship owner and merchant of Philadelphia. Mrs. Brooke's father was a grandson of Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, first Speaker of the House of Representatives. Two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Brooke, Edward and George. The family are all identified with the Episcopal Church. They occupy one of the most magnificent homes in this beautiful section of Berks county, Mr. Brooke having erected suitable residences for himself and the members of his family at a spot overlooking Birdsboro and the surrounding country, which has been beautified as well as developed principally through his enterprise and that of other members of the Brooke family. Mr. Brooke's ninety-years "have been filled with varying experiences, but without have been favored with a due measure of sunshine, the brightest ray of which to him must be the reverence and affection of his townspeople, which is almost filial."

EDWARD BROOKE was until his death the senior partner of the firm of E. & G. Brooke, mentioned at length in the sketch of George Brooke. He was born Feb. 28, 1816, at Birdsboro, son of Matthew Brooke, and like other members of his family was all his life identified with the advancement of its best interests.

Highly educated, his scientific attainments played a large part in the success of the various enterprises with

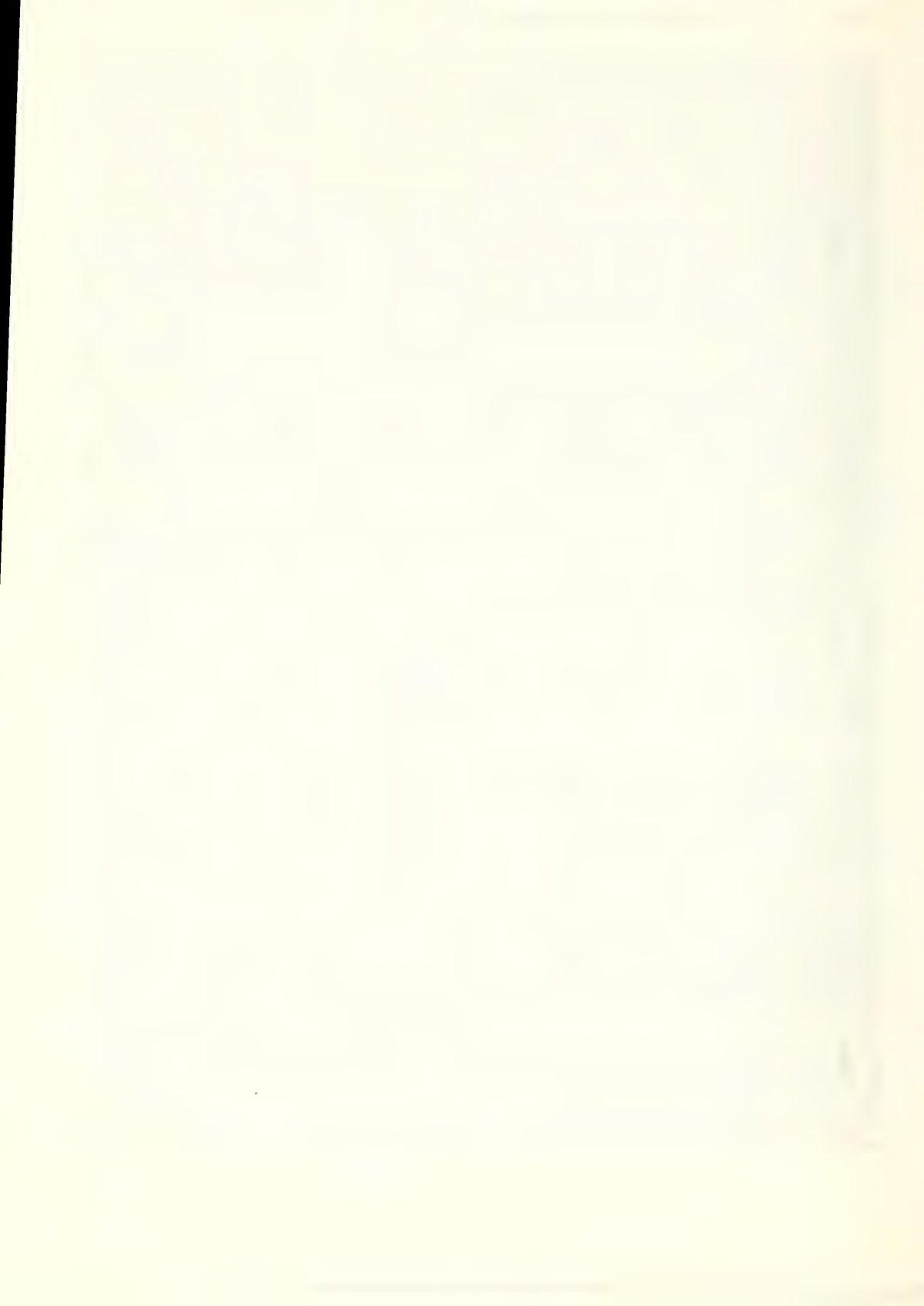
which he was connected, and his ability and ambition rounded out a nature unusually complete in intellectual force and practical knowledge. Industry, perseverance and faith in his ventures made his energetic course one of remarkable success. His progressive mind and far-seeing judgment enabled him to enter confidently into many fields where men of less strength would have hesitated to venture, yet his prudence in management and care in looking after details kept his undertakings always within conservative bounds and made him trusted among all his business associates.

Incidental to his own interests, and beyond them, Mr. Brooke was always active in promoting the welfare of his home town, and many of the most efficient measures for its prosperity in his day were originated or supported by him. The Wilmington & Reading railroad, which passes through Birdsboro, was constructed through his efforts, and he was the first president of that road. He was one of the original projectors of the First National Bank of Reading, and served as a director until his death. By nature kindly and genial, honorable and upright in all his dealings, he was a man not only respected but beloved by all with whom he came in contact. His death, at Birdsboro, Dec. 25, 1878, was the occasion for general mourning throughout the community in which his entire life had been spent.

Mr. Brooke married Annie M. Clymer, daughter of Daniel R. Clymer, of Reading, and four children survived him: Annie Clymer (who married Blair Lee, of Washington, D. C., and died in 1903), Robert Edward, George Clymer and Frederick Hiestler.

DAVID B. BRUNNER, prominent educator and congressman of Berks county, was born March 7, 1835, in Amity township. His father was John Brunner, a carpenter in that township, and a descendant of Peter Brunner, a native of the Palatinate, who emigrated to this country before 1736, settling in Douglass township, Berks county, about 1765. During his boyhood he attended the common schools in the township till the age of twelve years, when he learned the trade of carpenter under his father. At this occupation he continued until the age of nineteen years, attending school during the winter, studying higher branches for a time, and from 1852 to 1855, he taught public schools. During that time he prepared himself for college at the Freeland Seminary. In 1856 he entered Dickinson College and took a complete classical course, graduating in 1860. He then opened a private school at Amityville, and conducted it successfully in 1860 and 1861. With this preparation he located at Reading in 1862, having purchased the Reading Classical Academy, which had been founded by the Rev. William A. Good in 1854. He conducted this institution with increasing success year after year till 1869, when he was elected county superintendent of common schools of Berks county, and at the end of his term of three years was re-elected without opposition. These circumstances indicate the deep and favorable impression which he had made upon the people. Upon his first election, he continued the classical academy with the aid of assistants; but upon his reelection he closed it so as to be able to devote his entire attention to the schools of the county. At the end of his second term as county superintendent, he re-opened the institution under the name of Reading Scientific Academy. This change was made to signify that the study of the sciences was an important part of the course of education under him. Besides the daily study of scientific branches, frequent lectures were delivered by him to the scholars, his subjects illustrated by philosophical experiments, etc., with the aid of instruments manufactured by himself.

In 1875 and 1876, he conducted a business college at Reading; and in 1880 and 1881 he acted as city superintendent of the common schools in Reading. From 1889 to 1893 he represented Berks county in Congress. For a number of years Prof. Brunner manifested a strong interest in the history of the Indians of Berks county. He collected many relics, and narrated the results of his investigations for the Reading Society of Natural Science.





Edw. Brooke

His essays were published in 1881. In the course of his labors, he made many wood-cuts to show the size, form, and appearance of Indian relics, such as arrow and spear-heads, axes, knives, hammers, plates, pottery, beads, shells, pestles, mortars, ornaments, etc., for which he received much praise. He published an interesting book on this subject in 1881.

Prof. Brunner was a thorough mineralogist. He investigated the entire county in respect to its minerals with great success, and prepared a catalogue of the different varieties. The birds of the county also received his earnest attention, and he collected and mounted a number of fine specimens. His collection included 100 of the rarest specimens. He also gave much attention to microscopy, using in his researches a fine, large microscope, with lenses magnifying from 10 diameters to 1,200. The intervals in his school teaching were largely devoted to the production of scientific apparatus, and to the addition of natural curiosities; and with the aid of a lapidary's mill, he polished a large variety of the best and most beautiful minerals of the county which he mounted upon glass slides for microscopic examinations. His extensive cabinet included a thousand mounted specimens. Two degrees, Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts, were conferred upon him by Dickinson College, the former at the time of his graduation, and the latter in 1863. In 1877, he published an elementary work on English grammar, and in 1882 issued a second and revised edition. Many thousand copies were sold and used throughout Berks county and in adjoining counties.

In 1861 Prof. Brunner married Amanda L. Rhoads, daughter of Abraham Rhoads, of Amity township, who was a descendant of one of the earliest settlers in the county. They had five children—Daniel Edwin, Elizabeth (m. Edwin L. Moser), Edgar Alfred, Mary, and Henry Philemon.

ROBERT M. BARR was born at Lancaster, Pa., and was admitted to the Bar of Berks county on Jan. 3, 1831, about which time he moved to Reading. He acquired an extensive practice and was recognized as a superior lawyer. A man of fine appearance, he was possessed of a high order of eloquence. He represented Berks county in the Assembly for the year 1841, and in 1845 received the appointment of State reporter from Governor Shunk, the office having been created in the year named. The prescribed term of office was five years. He died whilst filling his appointment, having compiled and published the first ten State reports commonly known as "Barr's Reports." His friend, J. Pringle Jones, Esq. (who subsequently filled the office of president judge of Berks county), completed the compilation of the cases adjudicated during his term and published them in two volumes, commonly known as "Jones' Reports." He died at Reading, Dec. 25, 1849, aged forty-seven years.

Mr. Barr married a daughter of Dr. Holmes, of Lancaster, Pa., and left a daughter.

HON. JAMES K. GETZ, former mayor of the city of Reading, Pa., an influential citizen and leading business man, president of the Reading Shale Brick Company for the first ten years of its existence—1896 to 1906—and a member of the firm of H. S. Getz's Sons, proprietors of the Reading Steam Marble Works, was born in Berks county, Pa., Jan. 19, 1848, son of Hiram S. and Sarah B. (Kistler) Getz.

James K. Getz comes of German ancestry. John Getz, the founder of the family in America, came from Rheinpfalz, Germany, and settled on a grant of land in Lancaster county, Pa., received from King George. His son, Nicholas, who became the great-grandfather of James K., followed farming in Berks county, married and reared his children, one of these being Jacob Getz, our subject's grandfather. The latter was born in Berks county, and followed an agricultural life, becoming one of the prosperous and substantial citizens of the community in which he lived. He married Hannah, youngest daughter of John Soder, who served as captain in the

Continental army, during the Revolutionary War. He was a staunch Democrat in his political views, and his descendants have been identified with the same party.

Hiram S. Getz, father of James K. Getz, was born at Sunbury, Pa., in 1822, but was reared in Berks county, the family having returned there. He was educated in the schools of Reading. From 1857 to 1870 he was engaged in a wholesale grocery business at Reading, and in 1874 he formed a partnership with his son, James K. Getz, and they began the operation of the Steam Marble Works under the firm name of H. S. Getz & Co. This continued until his death in 1886, when his son Hiram K. received by will his half interest. The business is now conducted under the firm name of H. S. Getz's Sons.

From 1854 until 1857 Hiram S. Getz was Recorder of Deeds for Berks county; was Registrar of Wills from 1869 to 1872; and for a number of years was a valued member of the City Council. He died in September, 1886. He was survived by his wife but a few months. Mr. Getz married Sarah B. Kistler, daughter of John S. Kistler, who was the eldest son of Samuel Kistler by his second wife Caroline Brobst—Samuel Kistler was the fourth son of George Kistler, the emigrant ancestor. George Kistler came from Switzerland to this country and moved from Montgomery county to Lehigh county, Pa., in 1735. The children of Hiram S. Getz and wife were: Amelia, James K.; Sarah; John; William; Emma; Charles K.; Hiram K., and Laura.

James K. Getz, who occupies a conspicuous place in the business world of Reading, was born in Albany township, and was educated in the public schools of Reading. When his father was elected county recorder in 1853, the family moved into Reading, and thus Mr. Getz had more advantages than if he had grown to manhood in the country. It was his intention to enter college, and he spent a season in Philadelphia in preparation, but his ambition was not realized. His father had on his hands a large wholesale grocery business just at a time when he was left almost without clerks on account of their enlisting for the Civil war in 1863, and it became necessary for James K. to enter the store. In 1869, on attaining his majority, his father sold the business to him and Jonathan Grimm, and they maintained that partnership, trading as Getz & Grimm, for five years, when it was dissolved, and Mr. Getz entered into partnership, in 1874, with his father, forming the firm of H. S. Getz & Co., as proprietors of the Reading Steam Marble Works, of which he is still the joint owner with his brother, Hiram K. In 1896 the Reading Shale Brick Company was organized, and Mr. Getz became its president. The business has proved one of great success, the market extending to a number of other States, large sales being realized in New York. The different business concerns which have found favor with Mr. Getz have been those of the utmost merit, and their conduct has been along lines of constant expansion but with methods only of the most honorable character.

Since young manhood Mr. Getz has been more or less interested in politics, and has always been thoroughly informed concerning public issues. Like his father and grandfather, he is an out and out Democrat, believing firmly in the old time principles of this great party. That he is looked upon as a man in whom confidence can be placed for his personal qualities, has been frequently shown when he has been elected to offices of responsibility by the votes of both parties. Such was the case in 1880 when he was elected councilman from the Fifth ward, Reading. He scored a great victory, being returned in a district which had formerly given good majorities to Republican candidates. He continued a member of the council two years and served the second year of that time as its president. In 1885 Mr. Getz was the popular choice for mayor, and he served through the term of two years with complete success, his administration adding to his former laurels.

In 1868 Mr. Getz was married to Mary Agnes Jones, daughter of John H. Jones, a prominent farmer, and

granddaughter of Samuel Jones. She comes of distinguished ancestry and Revolutionary valor. Her great-grandfather, Rev. Thomas Jones, was a Baptist clergyman, a native of Wales, who took up land in Cumru township, in 1745. Thomas Jones, Jr. (father of Samuel Jones), born in Cumru township in 1742, was an organizer of the patriotic society known as the "Associators." He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and died in Heidelberg township, Berks county, in March, 1800. He was a member of the first Constitutional Convention.

Fraternally Mr. Getz is prominent in Masonic organizations. He is a member of Lodge No. 62, F. & A. M.; Reading Chapter No. 152, R. A. M.; Creigh Council No. 16, R. & S. M.; De Molay Commandery, No. 9, K. T.; and the Philadelphia Consistory, 32d degree, A. A. S. R.; and Rajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.

On many occasions Mr. Getz has been importuned to accept a directorship in some bank or other large financial body, but such honors and emoluments he has declined, in all cases stating that he preferred to devote his whole time, outside his public and social duties, to the development of the Reading Shale Brick Company and the Reading Steam Marble Works; but in the early part of 1906 he became a member of the directorate of the Pennsylvania Trust Company.

JOHN SPAYD, second President Judge of Berks county, was born in Dauphin county, Pa., in January, 1764. He acquired a classical education, read law and was admitted to the Bar Feb. 14, 1788, and began practising at Reading, where he attained great prominence. He was appointed judge of the courts of Berks county in 1806, and officiated three years. Between the years 1795 and 1810 he was a member of the General Assembly. The remainder of his life was devoted to the practice of law at Reading. In 1822 he went to Philadelphia for surgical relief, undergoing an operation, but his case was beyond human skill, and he died there October 13th, in the fifty-ninth year of his age. His remains were interred in the Lutheran graveyard, and subsequently transferred to the Charles Evans Cemetery. The judges of the court, members of the Bar, and the borough council each passed appropriate resolutions commendatory of his life and character as a lawyer, as a judge, and as a public-spirited citizen. Members of the Philadelphia Bar held a meeting in the District Court-room and also adopted appropriate resolutions.

Judge Spayd married Catharine Hiester, eldest daughter of Governor Joseph Hiester. Their children were: Elizabeth (m. Edward B. Hubley, member of Congress from Schuylkill county); John (graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania); Catharine B. (m. John B. Brooke, merchant of Reading, and father of Dr. John B. Brooke); Joseph H. (member of the Berks County Bar); George W. (burgess of Reading); Henry (graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania and died soon after graduation); Amelia (m. Dr. Diller Luther, of Reading). At the time of his death, Judge Spayd resided in Penn Square, next house west of the Farmers' Bank.

PENROSE F. EISENBROWN, who died suddenly at his home in Allentown, July 4, 1898, was one of the oldest business men of Berks county, and a man whose life had been so ordered as to merit the high esteem and affection of all who knew him. He was born near Allentown April 3, 1831, son of John Daniel and Charlotte Barbara (Wolf) Eisenbrown.

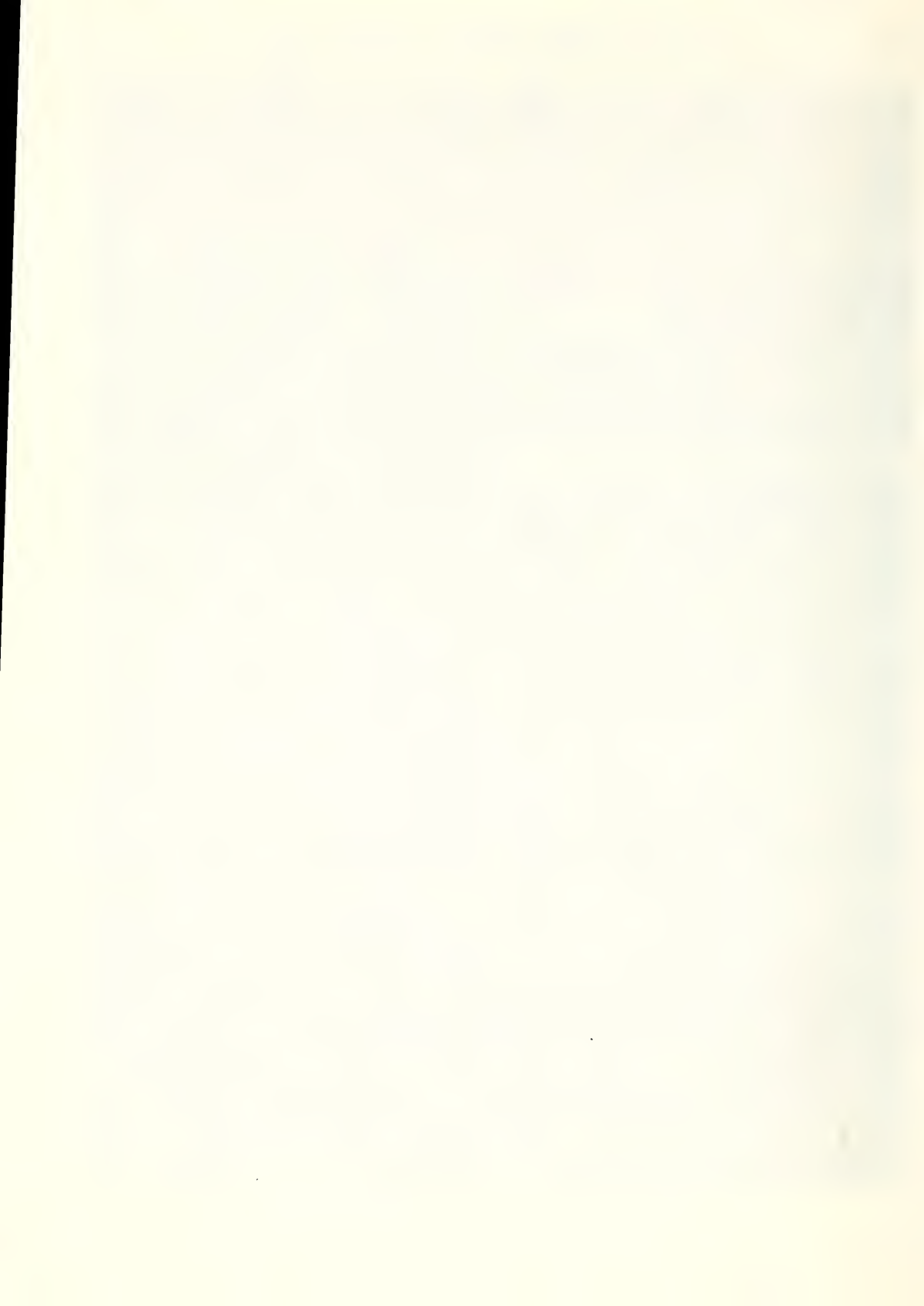
John Daniel Eisenbrown was born in Adelberg, Germany. He came to this country when sixteen years of age, landing at Philadelphia. He was an organist and also followed tombstone cutting, and taught in a parochial school. He moved to Allentown in the fifties and lived there until March, 1874, when he died suddenly of apoplexy, just as he was preparing to move to Greenbrier, Northumberland county. His remains rest in Union ceme-

tery, Allentown. Mr. Eisenbrown was twice married. His first wife was Charlotte Barbara Wolf, daughter of John George and Anna Maria (Bauer) Wolf. She died in 1833, the mother of eight children, and is buried in a graveyard at Egypt Church in Northampton county. The children born to John Daniel and Charlotte Barbara (Wolf) Eisenbrown were: (1) Frances m. (first) a Mr. Kuhl, a lithographer in Philadelphia, and had two children, George and Mary. She m. (second) Peter Hauck, of Philadelphia, who owned a large confectionery establishment and considerable property in Allentown. There were no children born to the second marriage. (2) Edward Constantine m. the only daughter of a well-to-do farmer named Keiffer, near Milton, and they had one child who died just ten days before his father. The latter's death was the result of an accident. He had sold some cattle and was on his way home when he was caught by a train on a bridge and was killed. (3) Mary Ann m. lived and died in Whitehall, Pa. (4) Charlotte, deceased, m. Joseph Beitel, who lives in Allentown. (5) Wilhelmina m. Charles H. Eggert, and lived in Bethlehem. She died and is buried in the Moravian cemetery there. Her husband died in 1907. Two children survive. (6) Matilda, Mrs. Steinbach, lived at Limestoneville, Montross county, where she is buried. Her husband was a shoemaker by trade. He enlisted in the Civil war. They were the parents of six children. (7) Penrose Frederick was born April 3, 1831. (8) William, born in 1833, was but two weeks old when his mother died and he was adopted at Egypt by a family named Troxel, who afterward moved to Carroll county, Md. He became a painter by trade. He m. Mary Fuhrman and they now live on her father's homestead, which they own. They have no children. John George Wolf, father of Mrs. John Daniel Eisenbrown, was born in January, 1774, and died June 27, 1842; his wife, Anna Maria Bauer, was born July 17, 1775, and died in 1843. Their family consisted of two sons -- Fred and George -- and four daughters -- Mrs. Christiana Grossholz, Mrs. Souders, Mrs. Hoffman and Mrs. Eisenbrown. John George Wolf was a wood turner, making a specialty of spinning wheels.

John Daniel Eisenbrown, for his second wife, m. Mary Troxel. They were members of St. Paul's New School Lutheran Church, at Allentown, and both are buried in the cemetery there. Of the children of this marriage, Emma m. James Myers, a shoemaker, and they live at the corner of Jordan and Liberty streets, opposite the thread mill in Allentown; Pauline m. a Mr. Knous, a cabinet-maker of Philadelphia; Theresa died when eighteen years old; Christine became Mrs. Scheffer, and died a year after her marriage; Alfred was a drummer boy in the Union army, and died in the service; Otto m. Amanda Scheffer, and is deceased.

Penrose F. Eisenbrown was but a year and a half old when his mother died, and he was taken to the home of his grandfather Wolf. Mr. Wolf was a wood carver by trade, and he early trained his grandson in that line, at the same time cultivating in him habits of industry and thrift. Mr. Eisenbrown was ambitious, and determined to enter business for himself. He began at Minersville, with a small establishment and a few hands, and there he was very successful. Thence he went to Pottsville, where he met with equal success, but his health failed, and he sold out in 1870, to engage in farming. About three years later he came to Reading, and he entered the marble business, building up a trade and reputation second to none. Monuments public and private, the work of his establishment, have been distributed all over the State. His taste was excellent and his workmanship the best. About 1896 he gave up active workmanship in the firm, which of late years was known as P. F. Eisenbrown, Sons & Co., and moved to Allentown, where his death occurred.

Mr. Eisenbrown was a great lover of literature, and his library was large and well chosen. He possessed no little poetical talent, and produced many German and English poems, some of which were published in the Allentown and other papers, while many remained unprinted, only



to be found among his papers at his death. He was an earnest Christian. In 1848 he organized a Sunday-school at Lehigh Church and superintended it many years. This school was very successful, and only a very short time before his death Mr. Eisenbrown participated in the exercises celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. He was a kind and sympathetic man, and as an instance of this, while he was teaching in the Lehigh Church and still a young man, an epidemic broke out, and the people were being swept before it in great numbers. He saw the need of assistance, and at once entered upon the task of nursing and tending those afflicted, and remained steadfast at this until the scourge abated. For his fidelity and kindness he was ever after held in grateful remembrance by those people. When he was a little boy some five years of age, and living with his grandfather, an uncle Frederick Wolf donated the land for the church and cemetery since known as Zion's Hill, Bucks Co., Pa., and Mr. Eisenbrown had the great pleasure of lifting the first shovelful of earth at the excavating for the erection of the first church there. It was his delight all through life to labor for and assist any and all matters for the Church and Sunday-school.

On July 3, 1839, at Greenbrier, Northumberland county, by the Rev. Jared Fritzinger, Mr. Eisenbrown was married to Sarah S. Smith, born Oct. 25, 1839, only daughter of Jonathan and Sally (Snyder) Smith. The following children were born of this union: Harvey Jonathan, born Sept. 22, 1860, at Greenbrier, baptized Nov. 22, 1860, died July 22, 1861, aged ten months; Alice Charlotte, born Aug. 26, 1862, at Minersville, m. Edward Christian, who is connected with the marble business; Harry Wolf, born in Minersville, Sept. 16, 1864, baptized Nov. 14, 1864, is deceased; Charles Smith, born in Pottsville, Oct. 19, 1866, baptized June 28, 1867, m. Alice Kauffman, and is the senior member of the firm; Annie, born in Pottsville, Sept. 18, 1868, died Dec. 29, 1870; George Franklin, born in Pottsville, Oct. 31, 1870, baptized Feb. 27, 1871, m. Rosa Fix, and is a member of the firm; Wilson Henry, born Aug. 24, 1872, baptized April 29, 1873, m. Annie Faust, daughter of J. B. Faust (superintendent of the lettering department in the plant) and is in the Biehl Carriage and Wagon Works; Edward Penrose, born in Reading, April 15, 1873, baptized July 4, 1875, m. Sarah Reeser, and is superintendent of the Granite Department at the North Reading Granite Works; Mary Henrietta, born May 8, 1877, in Reading, baptized Oct. 1, 1877, died Dec. 4, 1879; Samuel Frederic, born in Reading, Sept. 16, 1879, baptized Jan. 4, 1880, m. Rosa Wentzel, widow of Harry Eisenbrown, and is a salesman for the firm; Martha Sarah, born in Reading, March 4, 1882, baptized July 2, 1882, m. Dr. Samuel B. Geise, of Jersey Shore, Lycoming Co., Pa.; and John Daniel, born June 12, 1886, baptized Oct. 3, 1886, is unmarried and is engaged in the firm as bookkeeper.

Mrs. Eisenbrown resides at No. 522 Elm street, Reading. She owns the old homestead of 125 acres in Greenbrier—a farm once the property of her grandfather. Her sons have continued the marble and granite business so substantially successful under the father's management, and they are meeting with that prosperity that attends well-directed effort and honorable dealings.

JAMES HERVEY STERNBERGH, of Reading, Pa., former president of the American Steel & Iron Manufacturing Company, of Lebanon and Reading, pioneer in the manufacture of nuts and bolts in America, is one of the most notable figures in the steel and iron trade in Pennsylvania, if not, indeed, in the United States. Mr. Sternbergh was born in Henrietta, Monroe Co., N. Y., May 20, 1834. His father, a Genesee Valley farmer, was descended from German ancestry, who settled in America in 1703; in that year four unmarried brothers came over, David, Adam, Nicholas and Lambert, who were driven out of the Rhine Valley at the time of the religious troubles in the Palatinate. They were the first to raise wheat in Schoharie county, in the Mohawk

Valley, where they became large agriculturists. William Sternbergh, father of James Hervey, died at the age of eighty-six years; the forefathers for several generations had reached advanced age.

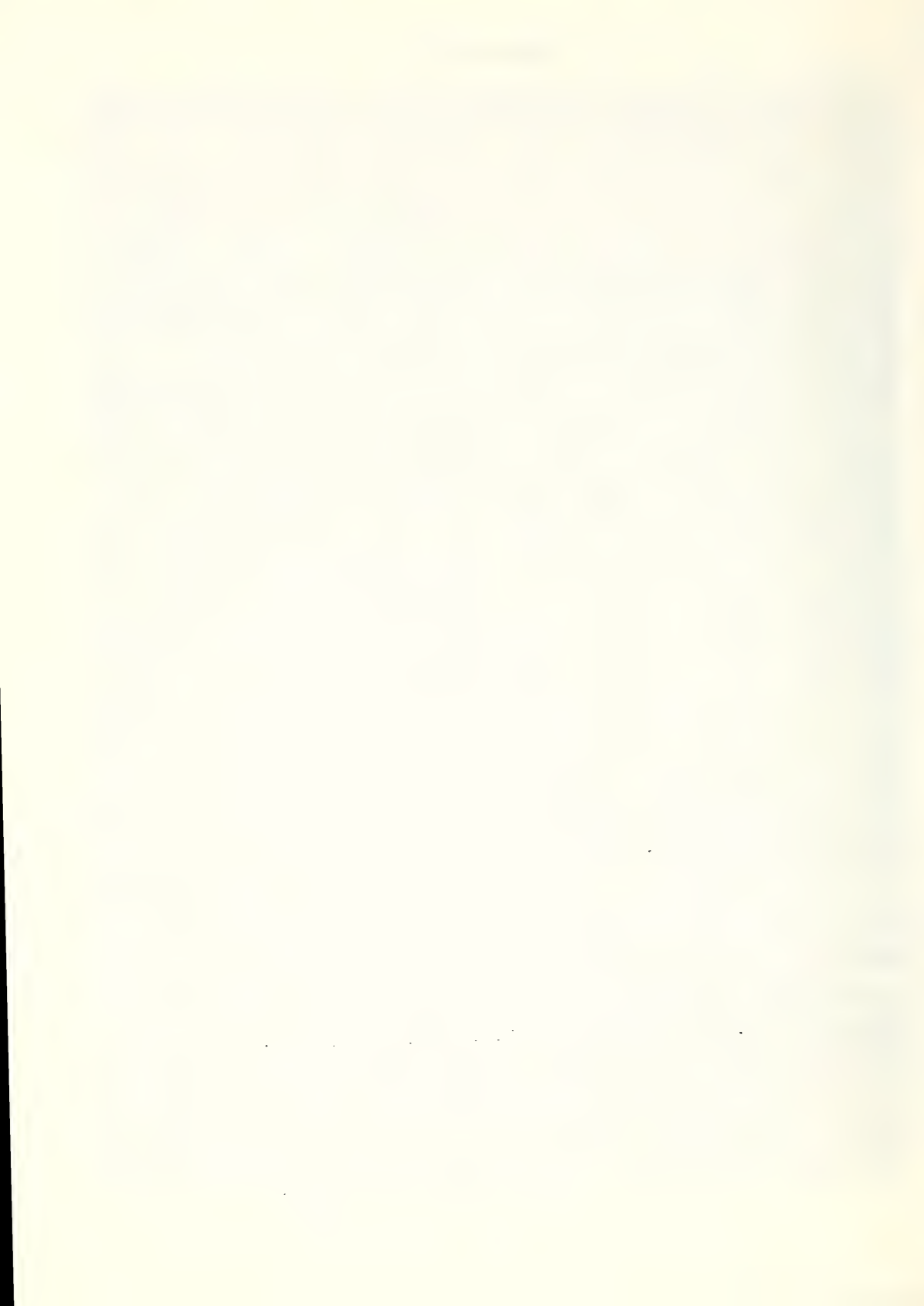
The Sternbergh family removed to Saratoga Springs and lived there until James H. was thirty-one years old. He spent a number of these years as general passenger agent of the railroad running through Saratoga. His choice had been to become a professional man, but study affected his sight, and in 1863, he removed to Reading, Pa., where he became interested in the manufacture of bolts, nuts, rivets, etc. In 1867 Mr. Sternbergh invented and patented a machine for making hot-pressed nuts, and this machine has been in use ever since, its inventor and maker even having demands for it from competitors in business at home and abroad. This is only one of many important and useful inventions of Mr. Sternbergh. He invented a superior grinding machine for grinding hard metals, doing the work much more effectively than before, and at much less cost. There were only two or three other establishments of the kind in the United States, and Mr. Sternbergh may be justly called the pioneer in the business of nut manufacturing.

In 1886, when his son Philip attained his majority, Mr. Sternbergh took him into partnership, and the latter subsequently became the manager of the branch works in Kansas City, Mo. There he died April 2, 1903, in the thirty-eighth year of his age, just in the prime of manhood, with every promise bright for a great future.

On Feb. 6, 1891, during Mr. Sternbergh's absence in New York, his works caught fire and were totally destroyed, save the rolling mill buildings and part of the large machinery. It was a heavy financial blow, but with characteristic energy he went about immediately getting things in shape, and within ten days after the fire the works were again in operation, and in the May following were turning out more goods than ever before. The Reading Bolt and Nut Works is a plant extending over some eight acres of land, lying between Third and Fourth streets, and between the Lebanon Valley Railroad and Buttonwood street. This large and important industry had its inception in 1863, when Mr. Sternbergh established it. From modest beginnings, in temporary buildings at the foot of Pine street and the leasing of necessary power from an adjoining concern, and the employment of from eight to ten men, to the present day, when a large tract of land is covered with the commodious buildings and a force of 1,500 men find employment, is a story of commercial success and industrial progress which holds much matter of interest.

The present substantial buildings are located on North Third street, above Buttonwood, and were first occupied in January, 1869. Since the fire above mentioned every new building has been made larger and more convenient than the old ones and the machinery and equipments are those of a first-class, modern plant. One building, 456 x 110 feet in dimensions, supplied with all kinds of improved machinery, is used for the manufacture of nuts, bolts, washers, rivets and rods for bridges, buildings, etc. Another, 325 x 90 feet in dimensions, is used as a rolling mill building and contains three trains of rolls, four heating furnaces, three upright steam engines, in addition to steam shears, lathes, pumps, etc. Another, the new rolling mill building, 200 x 80 feet, contains two trains of rolls, two heating furnaces and other machinery. The capacity of these mills is about 40,000 tons of rolled iron annually, embracing all sizes of merchant bar iron in common use.

Mr. Sternbergh's own articles of manufacture are disposed of to merchants and consumers of refined bar and band iron. At all times it is necessary to carry a large stock in order to meet the demands, and this need was recognized by the erection in 1880 of a large warehouse 150 x 40 feet, four stories high. The railroad facilities are of the best, three tracks running into the works, the first for the delivery of coal, the second for the delivery of crude iron, and the third for shipments. Mr. Sternbergh's goods were awarded medals at the Centen-



nial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876; at the Chicago Exposition in 1883; at the New Orleans Exposition in 1885; at the Paris Exposition in 1889; and at the Columbian Exposition in 1893, where they had three exhibits.

On Sept. 1, 1899, J. H. Sternbergh & Son consolidated their works with the Pennsylvania Nut & Bolt Company, of Lebanon, the Lebanon Iron Company, the East Lebanon Iron Company, of Lebanon, and the National Nut, Bolt & Rivet Works, of Reading, thus forming what is known as the American Iron & Steel Manufacturing Company, of which Mr. Sternbergh was president during the six years ending February, 1907, when he retired. It is capitalized at \$5,550,000, \$3,000,000 being full paid preferred stock, and \$2,550,000 full paid common stock. The works now give employment to 4,000 men.

J. H. Sternbergh, in addition to being the head of this vast concern, is a director in the Second National Bank of Reading; a director in the Reading Trust Company; and president of the Kansas City Bolt & Nut Company, which was founded by him in 1887. He was one of the founders of the Reading Board of Trade, and its president for the first three years, and he was also one of the founders of the Young Men's Christian Association, and served as its president many years.

Mr. Sternbergh has been twice married. In 1862 he was married (first) to Harriet M. May, of Southbridge, Mass., who bore him five children, two of whom survive, Herbert M. and Hattie May. He married (second) Mary Candace Dodds, of North Hero, Vt., and they had six children born to them, namely: James Hervey, born May 26, 1890; Helen, Aug. 18, 1891 (who died Nov. 11, 1894); David, Dec. 29, 1892; Lambert, March 29, 1893; Margaret, May 20, 1897; and Gertrude, May 8, 1899.

Mr. Sternbergh is an honorary member of the Academy of Inventors and Manufacturers of Paris, and the European Society of Brussels, Belgium. He is a ruling elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Reading, and for eighteen years with all his many and onerous duties found time to serve as Sunday-school superintendent. A remarkable fact about Mr. Sternbergh is that his years of strenuous work have been endured without a day's illness, and he stands today as an example of manly strength and mental superiority.

JAMES NEVIN ERMENROUT, fourth elected President Judge of Berks county, from 1889 to 1908, youngest son of William and Justina (Silvis) Ermentrout, was born at Reading, Oct. 25, 1846. After a preparatory education in the common schools he was graduated from the high school in 1862, first in his class. He then taught school for several terms, and assisted his brother (Prof. J. S. Ermentrout, County Superintendent of public schools) until 1868. While deputy superintendent, he conducted a course of reading and study, under his brother, Daniel Ermentrout, Esq., a practicing attorney at Reading till Nov. 27, 1867, when he was admitted to the Bar. He then directed his earnest attention to the legal profession and soon became actively engaged in practice. In 1869 he formed a law partnership with his brother, under the firm name of Daniel & James N. Ermentrout. Their law business increased rapidly and embraced a general practice, including important litigation and the settlement of numerous valuable estates. In 1874 his brother was elected State Senator from this district, and re-elected for three successive terms till 1880; and then he was chosen a member of Congress. During this period the practice of the firm was conducted almost entirely by the junior partner; and this constant engagement in legal business gave him a large and valuable experience. When the term of the additional law judge of the county was about to expire, the members of the Bar directed their attention toward Mr. Ermentrout, and in April, 1885, a letter was addressed to him subscribed by eighty attorneys, without regard to political party, requesting him to permit the use of his name as a proper person to fill this office. This proceeding created a strong public sentiment in his behalf, and when the Democratic convention assembled he was nominated by acclamation, and afterward elected at the en-

suing county election. He was re-elected in 1895, and in 1905. He died Aug. 19, 1908, after having served as a judge of the courts of the county twenty-two years.

JAMES W. YOCUM, late of Reading, was one of the most successful business men of that city for a number of years before his death. He was a member of the firm of Yocum Brothers, the largest manufacturers of cigars in Berks county, and the business is still conducted under that name and ranks among the leading industries of this prosperous section of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Yocum was born May 24, 1854, in Spring township, Berks county, and was descended on both paternal and maternal sides from old Berks county stock, being a son of William and Mary (Potteiger) Yocum. George Yocum, his grandfather, was born at Yocum's Forge, this county, and there passed all his life, dying at the age of seventy-eight. He was an iron manufacturer, and a man of substance and standing, highly respected in his community. His family consisted of six children, four sons and two daughters.

William Yocum, son of George, was also born at Yocum's Forge, and was reared at his native place. He received his education in the local public schools, and learned the milling business, but he soon went to farming, in which he found a congenial and profitable field for his energies throughout his active career. He died in 1905 at Stouchsburg, this county. Mr. Yocum was a prominent member of the Lutheran Church, in which he had held all the official positions. In political matters, he was, like his father, a strong Republican. He married Mary Potteiger, and to them were born five children: Clara; James W.; William H., who was in partnership with his brother James for many years; Velaria; and George J.

James W. Yocum was reared in the locality of his birth and received his education in the common schools of that section. He was an ambitious student, and succeeded so well that he was able to teach, being thus engaged for six terms during his young manhood. His first business venture was as a general merchant, in partnership with S. F. Fisher, with whom he did business at Stouchsburg under the firm name of Fisher & Yocum, for two and a half years. On Jan. 1, 1885, he entered into partnership with his brother, William H. Yocum, under the name of Yocum Brothers, and they continued together in the manufacture of cigars until the death of Mr. James W. Yocum, building up their business until it became the most extensive of the kind in Berks county. Five hundred skilled workers found employment in the immense factory at the corner of Walnut and Seventh streets, the yearly product amounting to as much as 20,000,000 cigars, disposed of in various markets throughout the United States.

At the time of his death no business man in Reading enjoyed better standing than James W. Yocum. His integrity had stood the test of many years of business success, and his ability was unquestioned. He had the true business instinct, understanding the art of making business, and he had the basic honesty which always proved sufficient to hold trade after it had been won, his product being exactly as represented. He was reliable, conservative, considerate of all his associates, and a man of earnest public spirit, and he won the unflinching respect of all who knew him, whether in business or personal relations. His rise in the manufacturing world was due solely to merit, and he enjoyed universal good-will. His death, which occurred at his home in Reading, Dec. 22, 1903, was widely mourned throughout the city.

On Oct. 14, 1875, Mr. Yocum married Agnes G. Schaffer, and six children were born to them: Charles; John, who married Alice N. Weand; Frank, who married Nettie Newmark and has a daughter Frances E.; Paul; Ralph; and Sadie. The family reside at No. 619 North Fifth street. Mrs. Yocum is a daughter of John and Gutara (Schlaseman) Schaffer, the former a native of Pennsylvania, where he carried on agricultural pursuits. In later life, however, he removed to Indiana, where he died. He was twice married, first to Gutara Schlaseman, by whom he had two children: James, of Brook, Ind.; and Agnes

G., who became Mrs. Yocum. His second marriage was to Sarah Schlaseman, sister of his first wife, and there were two children born to this union also, Melinda and Wilson, both residents of Indiana. Mr. Schletter was an industrious, hard-working man all of his life, and died in 1891, aged about seventy years.

Mr. Yocum was a 32d-degree Mason, belonging to Williamson Lodge, No. 307, F. & A. M., and he was also a member of Camp No. 237, P. O. S. of A. His religious membership was in the Lutheran Church, and in political faith he was a Republican.

WILLIAM H. LIVINGOOD, long an eminent member of the Bar in Berks county, where he practised for a period of forty years, passed away Oct. 22, 1906, in his seventieth year. From 1860 until his death he maintained a high standing in the legal fraternity and had a reputation not only in his own county but also in Philadelphia, where he was located for six years.

Mr. Livingood was born April 3, 1837, at Womelsdorf, this county, son of Dr. John B. Livingood, a distinguished physician of that place, and grandson of John Livingood. He received his early education in his native place, attending the Union Academy at Womelsdorf, from which he graduated in 1851. He continued his literary studies at the Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass., where he completed the course in 1855, after which he took his special preparation for his profession, at the Law School of Harvard University. He was accordingly admitted to the Bar at Lowell, Mass., and returning home was admitted to practice in Berks county on Jan. 19, 1860. With the exception of the six years he spent in Philadelphia, he was from that time until his death engaged in general legal practice in Reading. For the first three years he was in partnership with his brother, and then for about ten years he had an office of his own in Reading, where he built up a practice which was a decided tribute to his ability, fidelity and intelligent attention to the interests of his clients. In 1873 he moved to Philadelphia, where his expectations were fully realized, his patronage being all that could be desired. During his residence there, in 1874, he was admitted to the United States Supreme Court, at Washington, D. C., the motion for which action was made by Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, of Pennsylvania.

In 1879 Mr. Livingood, feeling that his original field was more congenial in many ways, returned to Reading, where he ever after remained. Except for a comparatively brief connection with the Staten Island Terra Cotta Company, which he formed upon his return to Reading, he devoted himself wholly to his profession. He was for a few years treasurer of the company, which carried on the manufacture of fire brick at Staten Island, N. Y., but disposed of his interest in order to give all his time to legal work. As a pleader Mr. Livingood had no superior at the Berks county Bar. His learning, his accuracy, his thorough comprehension commanded the attention of his fellow practitioners whenever he gave utterance to an opinion, and these, combined with ready eloquence and unvalued ease of delivery, won him an interested and sympathetic audience in the courtroom, no matter which side retained him. He was a man whose personal character and habits were above reproach, winning him the esteem and admiration of all his associates, his co-workers as well as his clients. His private affairs demanded all his attention, and he neither sought nor held public office, his only services of such nature being given as solicitor for the almshouse, which position he held three years. He was, however, both interested and active in politics, as an ardent member of the Democratic party, and he was president of the Keystone Club during the McClellan campaign. His church connection was with the Presbyterians, and he held membership in a Masonic lodge at Reading, being past master of the same. His death carried mourning into many circles outside his home, for he was universally liked.

On Aug. 20, 1863, by the Rev. E. J. Richards, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Mr. Livingood married Anna H. Jameson, of Reading, and to them were born four sons,

namely: (1) James J. is manager of the Spa Spring Clay and Brick Works, and makes his home in New York City. He m. Miss Elizabeth Potter, of Woodbridge, N. J., and they have one son, James J. (2) Albert J. m. Irene Rhoads, and died at the early age of twenty-seven years, leaving one son, James S., who is in Philadelphia. (3) Paul, a druggist, was previously in business in Allentown, Pa., but is now in San Francisco, Cal., with the Owl Drug Company. He m. Laura Smith, who died in 1905, the mother of two children, John and Ruth. (4) William W., M. D., received his medical education at the University of Pennsylvania, and is now located in practice at Reading. He m. Stella Ziegler, daughter of Dr. P. M. Ziegler, of Reading.

WILLIAM STRONG, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1870 to 1878, was born at Somers, Conn., May 6, 1808. When sixteen years of age he entered Yale College, and was graduated in 1828. He subsequently taught a classical and mathematical school, occupying his leisure hours in the study of the law, and so continued until February, 1832, when he entered the Law Department of Yale College. In October, 1832, he was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of Connecticut; and in November of the same year he opened a law office at Reading, and made that place his residence. In political faith he was a Democrat, and as such served several terms as a member of the city councils and as one of the controllers of the public schools. In 1846 he was elected as the representative to Congress from the Berks county district and re-elected in 1848. In 1850, he declined a re-election and returned to the practice of his profession. In 1857, he was elected a judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for the term of fifteen years, but he resigned this position Oct. 3, 1868, to resume the practice of his profession at Philadelphia. On Feb. 18, 1870, he was appointed by President Grant an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, which high position he held till 1878, when he was retired under the Act of Congress. While a resident of Reading he was for many years a director of the Farmers Bank. He was counsel for the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company until he was elevated to the Supreme Bench. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian, and for many years a ruling elder. For several years he was one of the vice presidents of the American Bible Society and also of the American Sunday-school Union; and in 1873 he was elected president of the American Tract Society. He received in 1867 the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Lafayette College, at Easton, and in 1870 the same honorary diploma was granted him by Nassau Hall, Princeton, N. J., and also by his Alma Mater, Yale College. His remains were brought to Reading and buried in the Charles Evans Cemetery.

JAMES T. REBER, President of the Reading National Bank, and one of the city's men of capital, business and social importance, is a descendant of one of the very old families of Berks county, Pa. On account of its prominence and its numbers and wide distribution, some of its members have taken a justifiable pride in looking up its early records. A well known citizen of Reading and a member of this family, Morris B. Reber, has with careful research compiled a volume which bears the title "Genealogy of the Reber Family, descended from Johan Bernhard Reber, 1728." From this interesting work we quote as follows:

"The idea of preparing a genealogy of the Reber family was probably suggested by the finding of the original passport of Johannes Reber still preserved, who was, for a long time, believed to be the first one of the large family of Rebers who emigrated to this country. This passport shows that he came from Lutzenscheid, Germany, which is situated in Kreis Hanau, Regierungsbezirk Cassel, Konigreich Preussia. While a citizen of that part of the country, in 1882, Mr. James T. Reber found recorded in the old church book of the Evangelical Church

(Rev. Frederick Hufnagle, Pastor), the names of four brothers, Johan Bernhard, Hans, Johan Conrad and Michael Reber.

"This church book dates back to the year 1660, so that it might be possible to obtain the ancestors of these four brothers since the sixteenth century. However, we have been satisfied to make a record only from the earliest emigrant to this country.

"Johan Bernhard Reber, the first of these brothers, is recorded in this same book as having one son, Johannes, mentioned below. The Pennsylvania archives, containing the names of 30,000 early emigrants, mention the arrival of John Bernhard Reber, from Rotterdam, Holland, on the "Snow Two Sisters", landing in Philadelphia and qualifying Sept. 9, 1738, by swearing allegiance to Great Britain. We can learn of nothing pertaining to his whereabouts or life after his arrival in this country. The passport, however, of the son who came to this country in 1742 is still intact.

"Johannes Reber, whose date of birth is unknown, son of Johan Bernhard, was married Feb. 8, 1739, to Johanna Magdalena Hahn, daughter of Conrad Hahn. They had two sons born in Germany, Johannes, Dec. 16, 1736, and Ludwig Friedrich August, Sept. 11, 1740. According to his passport, he left his native country for America, April 23, 1742, bringing his family with him, although it is known that the second son, Ludwig, died on board the ship. Being a member of William Penn's colony, his first object was to find a desirable location. Having selected some acres of land about six miles west of Reading, in Lower Heidelberg township, at the big bend of the Tulachocken, in a beautiful though desolate valley known afterward as the "Blue Marsh", he moved thither with his wife and son, built himself a home which served the double purpose of shelter and protection against the Indians and wild animals, his only neighbors. This quaint old building, with its large, square fire-place in the center is still standing on the farm formerly occupied by Mr. Henry Shofar, of Reading.

"We find recorded in the Pennsylvania archives, that John Reber was naturalized May 13, 1768; and also that he, like many others of the early settlers, was concerned in numerous disputes regarding the rights of ownership of their land. During the time that he resided in this locality, he was blessed with an increase to his family of three sons who were named Thomas, Valentine and Peter."

James T. Reber is a descendant of John or Johannes Reber mentioned above, who was the eldest son of Johan who emigrated in 1742, and who continued to live in Pennsylvania after his father's death. Johan Reber was twice married and had six children. Two of the brothers, Peter and Valentine, settled in the west in the neighborhood of Lancaster, Ohio, where numbers of their descendants may be found. The remaining brother, Thomas Reber, was born in Pennsylvania in 1746, was married to Elizabeth Kerschner, born Nov. 1, 1747, died Dec. 22, 1823, and he left ten children.

James T. Reber, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born April 29, 1831, at Sinking Spring, Berks Co., Pa. He was educated in the public schools and afterward engaged in the hardware business for forty years, from 1853 until 1893, trading as Bard, Reber & Company.

James T. Reber was married to Miss Sarah W. Pottgeier, Oct. 3, 1854. They have had seven children born to them, of whom Benjamin died aged nine years, the survivors being: C. Alice, wife of Joseph F. Templin, of Philadelphia, Pa.; Valeria E., wife of Isaac L. Deeter, in the Reading railroad service at Reading; Morris B., for a time engaged in the real estate business branch house, representing a large New York concern; Clara R.; and James C., a manufacturer of Reading. The mother of these children died Jan. 31, 1903, aged sixty-seven years.

In addition to the business interests already mentioned, Mr. Reber has been president of the Reading National Bank since March 14, 1906, the date of its organization. As one of the city's most respected citizens he has been chosen for offices of responsibility as his leisure time

permitted, serving for three years in the common council and for three years an unexpired term as prison inspector. He is a Knight Templar Mason and an Odd Fellow. Mr. Reber is prominent in the Reformed Church, in which he has been an elder for many years, and for six years he has been treasurer of the board of Home Missions. For more than twenty years he has been a trustee of the Bethany Orphans' Home; was treasurer of the board of publication of the Reformed Church of the United States for over twenty years; and has been a member of the board of Home Missions of the Reformed Church for many years. In 1907 he was elected trustee of Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

GEORGE FREDERICK BAER, President of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company since 1901, and the leading attorney at Reading for the thirty years preceding, was born Sept. 26, 1842, in Somerset county, Pa. When six years old, his parents removed to the county-seat from a farm situated three miles distant. He received his preliminary education at the Somerset Institute. When thirteen years old, he manifested an interest in the printing business, and entering the office of the *Somerset Democrat* worked at setting type for upward of two years. Appreciating then the importance of a better education, he resumed his studies in an earnest manner at the Somerset Academy; but he continued there only a year when he accepted the position of chief clerk and bookkeeper of the Ashtola Mills, a large lumber manufacturing establishment located ten miles from Johnstown, a position he filled for about a year, when his ambition for a more thorough education again asserted itself, and he entered the Sophomore class of Franklin and Marshall College at Lancaster, Pa. This was in the fall of 1860, but his course there was terminated by the breaking out of the Civil war. He and his brother Harry then purchased the newspaper mentioned and they conducted the publication in a successful manner until the following September, when Harry enlisted in the Union army, becoming an officer of Company B, 54th Regt., P. V. I., and he was left in sole charge of the newspaper. He worked assiduously at the case during the daytime, and edited the paper at night, having been frequently so pressed for time as to be compelled to compose the editorials and set them up in type while standing before the case. During this interesting period of his life, he continued a private course of studies with the expectation of returning to the college which he had left so abruptly, and it was this course, with the earnest and persistent exercise of his concentrative powers before the printer's case, which unwittingly prepared him so thoroughly for the arduous labors of professional and business life. He edited and published the *Democrat* until August, 1862, when his patriotic spirit also asserted itself for suppressing the Rebellion, with the enemy approaching the border of his own county, and he raised a company of volunteers from Somerset and vicinity, which was mustered into the national service as Company E, 133d Regt., P. V. I., and of this company he was commissioned captain, though not yet twenty years old. He served for the period of his enlistment (nine months), and was mustered out of service with his company on May 26, 1863. For part of the time he acted by detail as Adjutant General of the 2d Brigade, in Humphrey's Division. His regiment joined the Army of the Potomac at the second battle of Bull Run, and his company participated in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. Its most distinguished service was in forming the advance line of the army in the famous charge on Fredericksburg Heights, Dec. 13, 1862.

Upon returning home from the army, Mr. Baer selected the law as his profession, and after pursuing a regular course of legal studies in the office of his brothers William and Herman (both attorneys at the Somerset Bar), he was admitted to practice at the April term, 1863. He began immediately the practice of his profession, and under the guidance of his brothers for the following

Geo. F. Baer

four years was made thoroughly familiar with the intricacies of the profession in all its branches, more especially in the department which related to pleading and the trial of cases. He then removed to Reading for the purpose of locating there, having visited the place several months before, and on Jan. 22, 1868, was admitted to the Berks county Bar. In a few years after his location at Reading, his practice began to increase rapidly, and each succeeding year found him more successful. The trial of cases gradually became the prominent part of his practice, and within a decade his services were engaged in every important case in the local courts. This is shown on the records in the prothonotary's office, and in the published reports of cases taken to the Supreme court of Pennsylvania. This extensive and highly remunerative practice before the courts, local and Supreme, both State and national, continued for thirty years, when his important services as solicitor to the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company during this period eventually resulted in his selection as president of the re-organized corporation, and he has been re-elected annually for the past eight years, evidencing the highly satisfactory character of his services in its management. During the same time (since 1901) he has officiated as president of the Central Railroad of New Jersey.

On account of his prominent connection with the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company, Mr. Baer quite naturally became an important factor in the management of the Reading Iron Company, the largest industrial enterprise at Reading next to the shops of the railway company, and after having advised this great corporation (whose costly establishments are situated in different parts of Pennsylvania, and give employment to thousands of men) during the same period of time while acting as solicitor of the railway company, he became its president and directed its extensive business affairs in a most successful manner for twelve years. On account of his labors in connection with the Philadelphia & Reading and other railroads, he retired as president, but he has been officiating since as the chairman of its board of directors. His management resulted in making the corporation one of the largest producers of wrought-iron pipe of all sizes, bar-iron, sheet-iron, etc., in Pennsylvania, with large trading relations extending all over the world. He has also been prominently identified with the management of the Temple Iron Company, the Pennsylvania Steel Company, and the Cambria Steel Company, for a number of years as a director, acting as president of the first named since Jan. 1, 1901.

In 1886, Mr. Baer organized and established the Reading Paper Mills, and since then has operated them in a most successful manner. The corporation comprises three plants (one at the foot of Bingham street, one at the foot of Court street, Reading, and the third opposite Reading at the mouth of the Tulpehocken creek), all equipped with the best machinery for the production of the finest book and manilla papers, which are in constant demand. They employ three hundred hands and constitute one of Reading's important industries.

Mr. Baer co-operated with other public-spirited men of Reading in establishing the Penn National Bank in 1883; the Reading Hospital in 1884; the Reading Trust Company in 1886; the Penn Common in 1887; the Wyomissing Club in 1890; the Reading Free Library in 1898; the Berkshire Club in 1899; and he has continued to take an active part in the management of all of them excepting the Penn Bank. His services were particularly important in securing Penn Common as the property of Reading from the possession of the County of Berks, and he has officiated as president of the Board of Park Commissioners since its creation by the City Council. Since 1895, he has served as one of the board of trustees of the Charles Evans Cemetery.

In 1900, Mr. Baer erected the first large modern fire-proof office-building in Reading, situated at the corner of Court and Church streets, seven stories high, and embracing eighty rooms, adjoining the rear of his office

building on Washington street. The first two floors are occupied by the business offices of the Reading Iron Company.

During this long period of time, the services of Mr. Baer as a public speaker were in constant demand. Many of his more important addresses have been published in pamphlet form. They display the great scope of his learning, the forcible and precise character of his rhetoric, and the boldness of his convictions. His diction is clear; his manner of speaking straightforward, always extemporaneous, void of dramatic flourish, and it commands the close attention of his audience from start to finish; and his logic leads to an inevitable conclusion which wins admiration if not approval. His numerous paper-books in carrying on litigation before the higher courts, both State and national, show great care, thorough preparation, and complete knowledge of the respective cases; and they evidence in a high degree his superior literary culture as well as his comprehensive legal attainments. Among the numerous addresses and lectures delivered by him, the following may be mentioned:

LAND TENURE—Before the Law Department of the University of Pennsylvania, Oct. 25, 1887.

RELATION OF TARIFF TO WAGES—Before Single Tax Society of Reading, Jan. 19, 1891.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME—Formation of Pennsylvania German Society at Lancaster (of which he was elected the first president), April 15, 1891.

INFLUENCE OF REFORMED CHURCH ON CIVIL GOVERNMENT—At dedication of new Theological Seminary of Franklin and Marshall College at Lancaster, May 10, 1894.

GERMANS IN PENNSYLVANIA—Before Teachers' Institute of Berks county at Reading on Sept. 26, 1895.

BECHSTEIN GERMANIC LIBRARY—At opening of it for University of Pennsylvania, March 21, 1896 (being first of four addresses on that occasion).

APPEAL TO DEMOCRATS—Issued in summer of 1896, which resulted in organization of the "Gold Democrats" and aided materially in the defeat of the "Silver Democrats" who controlled the National Convention and nominated Bryan for President of the United States.

ORATION—Unveiling of Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument at Allentown Oct. 19, 1899.

WORK IS WORSHIP—Before the Y. M. C. A., of Reading, on Jan. 1, 1900, and amplified and delivered before Franklin and Marshall College, on Jan. 16, 1902 (Mr. Baer having been then, and is still, president of the Board of Trustees).

ADDRESS—Laying of corner-stone for new Science building of Franklin and Marshall College, June 13, 1900.

PENNSYLVANIA THEORIES OF GOVERNMENT—Before Pennsylvania Society of New York Dec. 12, 1902.

ARGUMENT before the Anthracite Coal Strike Commission—made at Philadelphia April 8, 1904.

MIXING OF COAL—Last lecture of a popular course of eighteen lectures delivered at different places in Schuylkill county, at Pottsville, April 8, 1905.

DEDICATION OF BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL—Reading, Thanksgiving Day, 1906.

RAILROAD LEGISLATION—Open letter to Pennsylvania Legislature, issued Feb. 7, 1907.

Mr. Baer has been prominently identified with Franklin and Marshall College since 1872, as a member of the board of trustees, officiating as president of the board since 1894. During this time he has labored efficiently for the advancement of the institution and contributed liberally toward its financial support. In 1886, the College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, and the Alumni Association, at its annual meeting in 1895, elected him as its vice-president.

Mr. Baer was brought up as a firm believer in the sterling principles of the Democratic party, and he has shown himself to be their fearless advocate. Upon locating at Reading, he interested himself in local politics, and gave party warfare much of his time; but he was never ambitious to fill any public office because he was too busily engaged with his large legal practice and business enterprises. He has at all times been a generous contributor

toward the campaign expenses, and he has exerted a powerful influence in national politics, as well as in the county and State.

Immediately after coming to Reading Mr. Baer and his wife identified themselves with the Second Reformed Church, and they and their children have been devoted members. When the church was rebuilt they were generous contributors. On all special occasions, the auditorium is profusely decorated with costly flowers from their conservatory, which elicit much praise and admiration.

In 1866, Mr. Baer was married to Emily Kimmel, daughter of John O. Kimmel, attorney at Somerset, and Mary Parker, his wife. To this union have come five children: Marion married William N. Appel, an attorney at Lancaster; Helen married William Griseom Cox, of Wilmington, Del.; Mary married Isaac Hiestor, an attorney at Reading; Emily married Frank L. Connard, at Reading (he dying Jan. 21, 1898); Nellie married Heber L. Smith, of Philadelphia.

Mrs. Baer has taken a very active part in local charities, more especially in the successful management of the Widows' Home, from its foundation in 1876. She has also taken much interest in the Woman's Club, the Book Club, and the Needle-Work Guild, serving each society as president. In social affairs she has been the acknowledged leader for many years. Her receptions in their costly and beautiful home "Hawthorne," on Mineral Spring road, have been superb; and it was there, during the popular demonstrations in the historical celebration of the "Sesqui-Centennial of Reading," June, 1898, that she and her husband "displayed a remarkable spirit of liberality in welcoming and entertaining distinguished visitors, and affording them unusual opportunities of seeing and knowing the social, industrial and municipal affairs of Reading, and of realizing its growth, wealth and importance as a promising centre of population." When Mr. Baer became president of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company in 1901, he secured a home in Philadelphia, and he and his family have occupied it since, during the winter and spring of each year. Their home is embellished with a rare collection of books and paintings.

Mr. Baer's father was Major Solomon Baer. He was born in 1791, in Northampton (now Lehigh) county, near Unionville, and when six years old accompanied his parents in their removal to a farm in Maryland, near Cumberland. They remained there sixteen years, then settled on a farm in Somerset county, Pa. about twenty-five miles farther west. He died in 1882, aged eighty-eight years, having lived at Somerset from 1848.

His grandfather was John Jacob Baer, of Northampton county, where he was born on the homestead in 1761. He was brought up on a farm, and followed farming there until 1800, when he removed with his family to Maryland, and there carried on farming until his decease in 1823.

His great-grandfather was Christophel Baer, who emigrated from Zweibrücken in 1743. Upon his arrival in Philadelphia, September 30th, he immediately proceeded to Northampton county, where he had purchased several tracts of land. The original patent issued to him describes one of the tracts as "Bruin's Choice," a free translation of the name of his ancestral home.

ISAAC ECKERT, until lately president of the Farmers National Bank of Reading, is one of the leading citizens of that place, a man of distinctive prominence in its commercial life, in which he maintains a name which has long been a synonym for worth and integrity, as well as marked business ability, in this part of Pennsylvania. The Eckert family is one of the oldest in this county, having been located here for almost two centuries. As the name implies, the Eckerts are of German origin.

Valentine Eckert, born in Langersdza, Hanover, Germany, in 1733, came to America with his parents in 1740, the family settling in the Tulpehocken Valley, in the western part of Berks county. He became quite a prominent

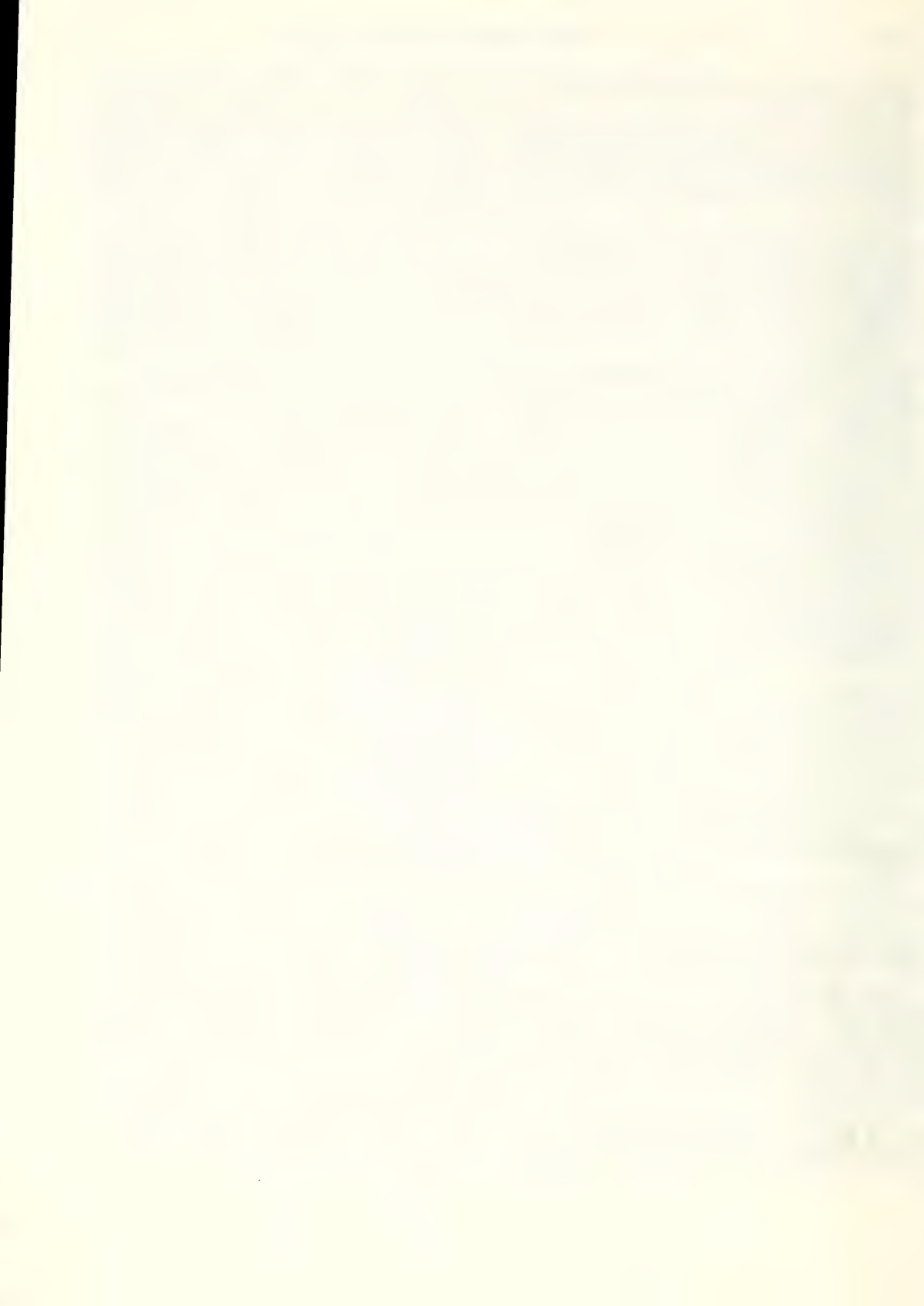
man in his day, becoming a citizen of this country after twenty-one years' residence here. He took a leading part in the Revolution and the events leading up to and following that struggle. In June, 1776, he was one of ten who represented Berks county in the Provincial Conference, and the next month was one of a delegation of eight members from Berks county to the Provincial convention convoked for the purpose of framing a new form of government, founded on the authority of the people, to succeed the old proprietary form. He was a member of the Provincial Assembly in both 1776 and 1777. During the war he commanded a cavalry company, was wounded at the battle of Germantown, became a lieutenant of the county in 1777, and served as such until he became lieutenant of the county, in the year 1781. In 1784 he was appointed a judge of the court of Common Pleas, holding that office for seven years, until by the Constitution of 1790 a president judge took the places of the various judges. In 1816, though then very advanced in age, he removed to the State of Virginia, where he died, at Winchester, in December, 1821, in his eighty-eighth year.

Peter Eckert, son of Valentine, passed all his life in Berks county, and engaged in farming and merchandising near Womelsdorf, the family home.

Isaac Eckert, son of Peter, was born in January, 1800, in Womelsdorf, and there received his early education in the public schools, later attending the grammar schools of the University of Pennsylvania. Before reaching his majority he became associated in business with his older brother, William, the sons succeeding their father in the grocery business, which they continued at Womelsdorf until 1828, in which year they moved their establishment to Reading. There they continued it until the year 1846, when Isaac Eckert withdrew from the firm to enter the iron manufacturing business in partnership with his younger brother, Dr. George N. Eckert. In 1844 they erected the Henry Clay Furnace, at that time one of the largest anthracite furnaces in the country, and in the year 1855 a second stack was completed. After Dr. Eckert died, on June 28, 1865, Isaac Eckert became sole proprietor of these works until his retirement, in 1875, when he passed them over to his sons, Henry S. and George B. This was not his only connection in the iron manufacturing line, for in 1852 he became president of the Leasport Iron Company, of which he remained the executive head until his death, thus controlling and managing extensive iron interests, in which he was one of the largest stockholders. Naturally his influence extended to other business enterprises, and he became especially well known as president of the Farmers Bank, an institution founded in 1844, of which he was chosen president in 1858. He served as such for the unusually long period of thirty-five years, and upon his death, which occurred Dec. 30, 1893, was succeeded therein by his son Henry S. Eckert.

Mr. Eckert was just as active in matters affecting the general welfare as he was in commercial circles. He served many years as president of the Berks County Agricultural and Horticultural Society, of which he was one of the founders, and was interested deeply in other enterprises calculated to advance the best industries of this section. Originally a Whig in politics, he became a Republican upon the organization of the party, and in 1860 was a delegate to the Republican National Convention, held at Chicago, which placed Abraham Lincoln at the head of the ticket; in 1864 he was a Presidential elector from the State of Pennsylvania. Throughout the war he did his utmost to aid the Union cause, both by liberal contributions and by his influence in directing public sentiment in his city.

Isaac Eckert married Judith Hahn, daughter of Dr. Hahn, of Montgomery county, and he was survived by his widow and three children, Henry S., George B. and Rebecca, the last named the wife of P. R. Straton, of New York City. As a memorial, after Mr. Eckert's death the family presented a full chime of ten bells to Christ Episcopal Church of Reading, of which Mr. Eckert had been a member.



Henry S. Eckert, son of Isaac, was born in Reading, where he received his preparatory education in the public schools. He then became a student at Franklin and Marshall College, from which he graduated, after which he entered business life. Becoming associated with his father in the iron business, he soon qualified so thoroughly for its demands that he was able to take the management of the works himself, and on July 1, 1873, the year of their father's death, but shortly before that event, he and his brother George B. formed a partnership to engage in the iron business, under the firm name of Eckert & Brother. Before long the Henry Clay Furnace became their property, but with all their new responsibilities they passed successfully through the financial panic of 1873. They not only carried on the manufacturing business, but also owned the iron mines which supplied their works with the necessary ore, employing altogether, in the mines and works, over two hundred and fifty men.

Besides his important connection with the firm of Eckert & Brother Mr. Eckert's iron interests led him into other associations of even greater prominence, and he served as president of the Eastern Pig Iron Association, as president of the Topton Furnace Company of Topton, and president of the Pennsylvania Bolt & Nut Works of Lebanon. As to local enterprises, it has already been stated that he succeeded his father in the presidency of the Farmers Bank in 1873, and he continued to hold that position until his own death, in 1893, when his son Isaac succeeded to the incumbency. He was also a trustee of the Union Trust Company and of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, the latter a Philadelphia institution. He was one of the promoters of the Penn Street Passenger Railway, which was put into operation in 1874 and which played so important a part in the improvement of East Reading. He was one of the projectors of the Berks County railroad, from Reading to Slatington, becoming a member of the board of directors upon the organization of the company, and he also served as a director of the Wilmington & Northern Railroad Company. He was a director of the Reading Hospital and of the Charles Evans cemetery. For over twenty years he gave his services as president of the school board of control, and in recognition of his valuable work the Eckert school, erected in 1873, was named in his honor.

As a large manufacturer Mr. Eckert was naturally inclined to a belief in the principles of protection, and accordingly upheld the tenets of the Republican party, in whose workings he took an active and efficient part. In 1866 he was the Republican nominee for Congressman from his district, running against J. Lawrence Getz, but although supported handsomely by his home city, which gave him a majority, he could not overcome the normal Democratic vote in the district.

In 1857 Mr. Eckert married Carrie Hunter, daughter of Nicholas Hunter, an ironmaster of Reading, and four children were born to them, viz.: Isaac, Helen (Mrs. Herman Meigs), Hunter and Kate M. (Mrs. Reeves). The mother passed away March 28, 1880. Mr. Eckert was a member of Christ Episcopal Church, in which he served as vestryman for a number of years before his death, and he was a zealous worker in all its enterprises.

Isaac Eckert, at present one of the most notable figures in the business life of the city of Reading, was born there May 27, 1859. He received his education in the public schools of the city and at Lafayette College, from which institution he was graduated in 1879, after which he immediately turned his energies to the line of business which his ancestors have followed for generations. The business was sold to the Empire Iron & Steel Company. Mr. Eckert served from 1893 until 1908, when he resigned owing to ill health, as president of the Farmers Bank, now the Farmers National Bank, which was presided over by a member of this family for almost seventy years, Isaac Eckert being of the third generation of the family to occupy that office. The circumstance is remarkable, not only for the unusual length of time the position was held in the family but as indicative of contin-

ued moral and mental strength. Mr. Eckert was also president of the Deppen Brewing Company, an important business concern of the city, but this, too, he resigned on account of failing health; he occupies a high position among the most substantial citizens of the present day. However, he is not active in either politics or outside matters to the extent his father and grandfather were, though he is a man of high public spirit and ready to lend his influence or financial aid to worthy projects which have the advancement of the city or the general welfare as their object. He is a Republican in political sentiment, and interested in local government, particularly municipal affairs.

In 1879 Mr. Eckert married Eliza Kaufman, daughter of William M. Kaufman, and they have had two children, William K. and Carrie.

WILLIAM K. ECKERT, of Reading, is interested in numerous enterprises in the city. He is a native of Reading, born in 1879, son of Isaac and Eliza (Kaufman) Eckert. In his youth he attended the local grammar and high schools, graduating from the latter in 1898, when he went to Cornell University. There he spent two years, at the end of which time he returned to Reading and read law with Isaac Hiester. On Dec. 12, 1901, he took the position of secretary-treasurer and general manager of the Deppen Brewing Company, which position he resigned in 1908, to enter the banking business, which is his present occupation. He is a director of the Farmers National Bank and of the Colonial Trust Company, two of the strongest financial institutions of the city, and in 1906 was chosen second vice-president of the former institution, with which his family have been so long associated. He is one of the most successful young business men of his native city, where he has a host of friends.

Mr. Eckert married, Dec. 12, 1905, in Reading, Miss Mary L. Barbey, whose family is mentioned elsewhere, the Barbey's being among the old and prominent families of the city. Mr. and Mrs. Eckert reside at No. 812 North Fifth street, Reading, and are well known and much esteemed in that locality. They are members of the Episcopal Church.

WILLIAM A. GOOD, first County Superintendent of Public Schools of Berks county, from 1854 to 1860, was born in Philadelphia in 1810. He was educated in the Reading Academy, studied theology in the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church at York, Pa., and was regularly ordained and licensed to preach in 1833. Soon afterward he accepted a call from the Reformed Church at Hagerstown, Md., where he officiated as pastor for several years. From that congregation he went to Mercersburg, Pa., to serve as rector of the Preparatory Department of Marshall College. After remaining there six years, he returned to Hagerstown and served as principal of the Hagerstown Academy for five years. He was then called to the pastorate of the Reformed Church at York, Pa., in which field he labored earnestly for six years.

He next removed to Reading and assumed charge of a select school for young ladies. At the expiration of the fifth year he became principal of the Reading Institute and Normal School, and remained there three years. In the meantime he was elected superintendent of the common schools of Berks county, being the first to fill that office. Most of the people of the county were members of the Reformed and Lutheran Churches, and averse to the new order of things. It was feared that in the rural districts the superintendent would encounter much opposition, but he understood the peculiarities of the people, and instead of raising a storm of opposition won their confidence and support, and he was re-elected for a second term. While thus engaged in the school affairs of the county, he also officiated as pastor of the Bernville, North Heidelberg and Princeton congregations, serving these churches altogether for eight years. He was one of the most zealous Sunday school workers in Berks county, and while superintendent of the common school, endeavored, in his private intercourse with the people, to interest them in the cause of Sunday schools, in this man-



ner coming to be instrumental in founding many of the Sunday schools of the county. He was one of the founders of St. John's Reformed Mission Sunday school, and this he conducted with the aid of his wife for nearly six years, and it eventually became a self-supporting and flourishing congregation.

The Rev. Mr. Good married in 1840, Susan B. Eckert, daughter of Peter and Susan Eckert, of Womelsdorf, Berks county. He died in 1873. He had two sons, William Eckert and James Isaac.

WARREN J. WOODWARD, second President Judge of Berks county, from 1861 to 1874, under the amended Constitution of Pennsylvania, was born Sept. 24, 1819, at Bethany, Wayne Co., Pa. His father, John K. Woodward, was a civil engineer and journalist, and at the time of his decease, in 1825, was prothonotary of Wayne county. His grandfather was an associate judge of that county for fifteen years, and sheriff in 1807.

After acquiring an academic education at Wilkes Barre, Warren J. Woodward taught school for several terms in his native county. At the age of seventeen years he directed his attention to newspaper publications, and continued his connection with them till 1840. He then returned to Wilkes Barre, and selecting the law as his profession, entered the office of his uncle, George W. Woodward, a practising attorney at the Luzerne county Bar, for the purpose of pursuing the necessary course of study. Whilst in this office his uncle was elected to the Bench as president judge of the 4th Judicial District of Pennsylvania. His preparation was completed under the preceptorship of Hon. Edmund L. Dana, and he was admitted to the Bar Aug. 1, 1842. He continued in active and successful practice for fourteen years. In April, 1856, the Legislature erected a new judicial district out of Columbia, Sullivan and Wyoming counties—the 26th in the State—and the Governor appointed him to the position of president judge; and in October following he was elected for the term of ten years. His reputation spread rapidly into adjoining districts. Half of his term had not expired, yet some of the old districts offered him the nomination for the president judgeship on the Democratic ticket. This was a flattering recognition of his judicial character and ability; but he declined the honor. In 1861, the term of the president judge in Berks county was about to expire, and the major part of the attorneys gave him a pressing invitation to become his successor. The Democratic convention held at Reading, Aug. 31, 1861, gave him the nomination by acclamation, and this he accepted. In his letter of acceptance, besides expressing his gratitude for the high honor conferred upon him, and his opinion about the impropriety of law judges participating in political struggles, he informed the committee that in the matter of the Civil War then raging he was most positively for the preservation of the Union of all the States, and for the enforcement of the Constitution. His sentiments were highly approved, and in October following he was elected by a large majority over a local candidate for the same position.

Judge Woodward moved to Reading and took his seat upon the Bench in December, 1861. His judicial and social deportment at once inspired the citizens with unqualified confidence. The Civil War caused much commotion in the county. The Democrats were displeased with the extreme course of the Republican administration in national affairs, but he, notwithstanding his election by them, advised co-operation and the enforcement of law to restore peace. His earnest public actions in behalf of the war, in conjunction with prominent and influential professional and business men, contributed a powerful influence toward the creation of a proper spirit in that alarming period. His patriotic conduct as a man of Democratic principles and association is worthy of special mention.

During his term he was unusually devoted to his office, and his administration of its responsible duties gave entire satisfaction; and he became thoroughly identified with the interests and welfare of the county. His reelection was therefore assured. Shortly before the expiration of

his term, the Legislature had established a District Court for Luzerne county, and the Bar of that county unanimously invited him to accept the office of president judge of the new court. When the movement became known, the attorneys of Berks county they held a special meeting and passed resolutions expressing the highest regard and affection for him, and inviting him to remain with them. The thorough appreciation of his course upon the Bench by the entire community, and the earnest expressions of good will by all the attorneys who practised under him, induced him to remain in the county. He was nominated by acclamation at the Democratic convention in June, 1871, and re-elected for a second term of ten years by a large majority.

The new Constitution of the State increased the number of the justices of the Supreme Court from five to seven members, and the two new members were to be elected in 1874, one by the Democratic party and the other by the Republican. The superiority of Judge Woodward's judicial qualifications and experience brought him prominently before the Democrats of the State as a worthy candidate for this important position, and he received the nomination of their State Convention. This honor was given to him without solicitation of any kind on his part. The office truly sought the man. Upon his nomination he received numerous congratulatory letters, and the people of Berks county rejoiced at this honor, though by it they would suffer the loss of his valuable services.

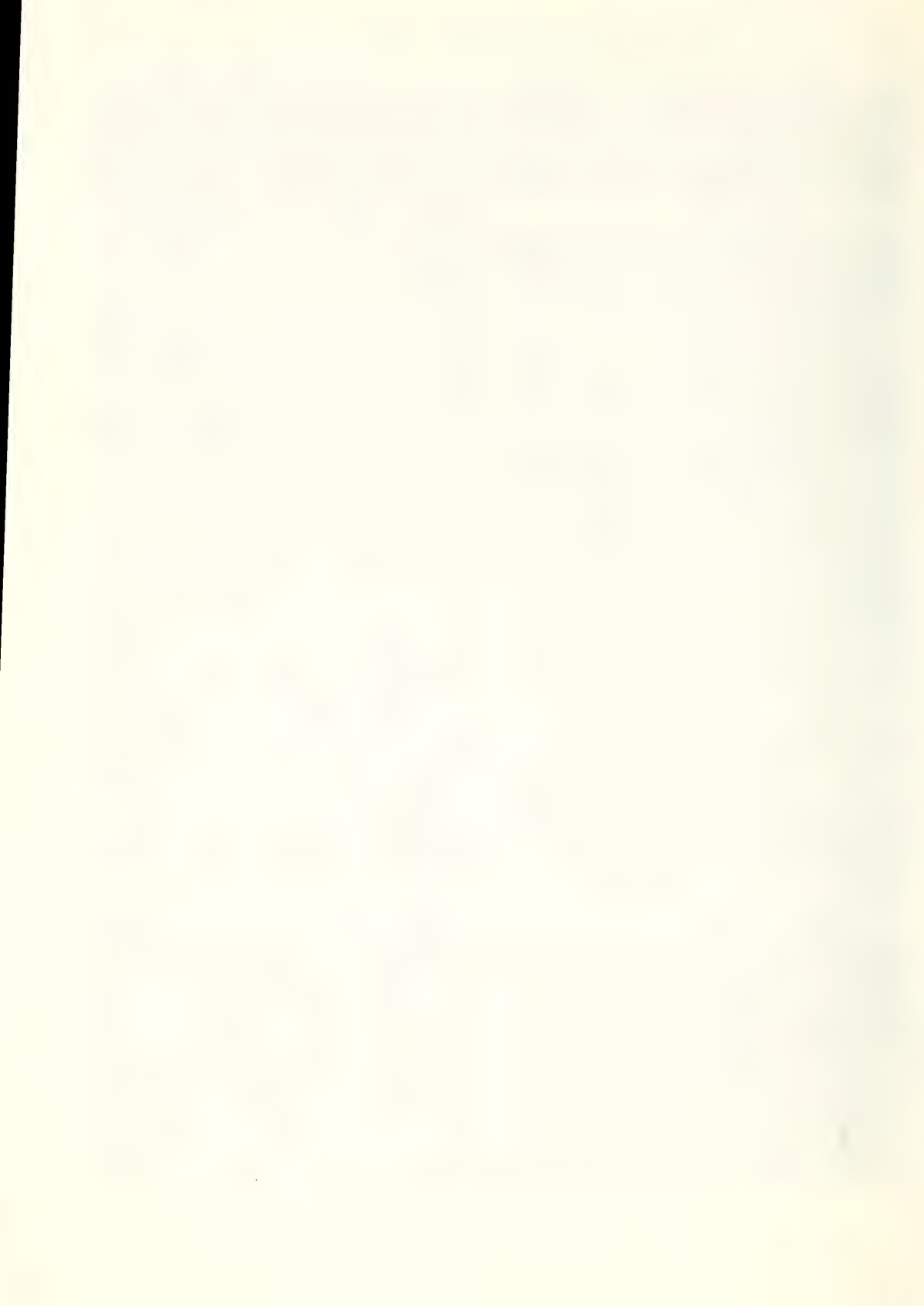
Shortly after the election, the Hon. Edward M. Paxson, the Republican candidate, elevated at the same time to the Supreme Bench, visited Judge Woodward at Reading. While here they cast lots for precedence in the order of succession to the position of chief justice, and Judge Paxson won it. Judge Woodward took his seat Jan. 1, 1875, and filled the office with honor and distinction till his decease, Sept. 23, 1879. He was particularly regarded for devotion, ability and conscientiousness in the discharge of his duties. His remains were buried at Wilkes Barre.

Judge Woodward was elected president of the Reading Benevolent Society at Reading in 1871, and he filled this office until his decease. He took a deep interest in the benevolent affairs of the community, and gave generously toward the relief of poor people. In 1875 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Franklin and Marshall College. While upon the Bench in Berks county, he adjudicated many cases and his opinions were not questioned by writ of error or appeal. These cases were compiled by G. A. Endlich, Esq., an attorney of the Berks county Bar, and published in two volumes in 1885. They are known as "Woodward's Decisions."

Judge Woodward married Katharine Scott, daughter of Hon. David Scott, of Wilkes Barre, and by her had three children: Henry and Warren were both admitted to the Bar, but are now deceased, and Katharine Scott m. Frank Perley Howe, son of Rev. M. A. DeWolfe Howe, D. D., deceased, and resides at Philadelphia.

LOUIS F. KRAEMER, son of Louis and Catherine (Pfelf) Kraemer, was born at Greenville, a suburban town of Norwich, Conn., July 30, 1854, and was educated in the schools of that place, at Trenton, N. J., and at Myerstown, Pa. Upon arriving of age in 1875 his father gave him an interest in Stony Creek Mills, which the father had established in Berks county, three miles east of Reading, in 1865, and was operating successfully at that time. There the son began his active career in connection with this prominent manufacturing plant, and has continued with it until now.

In 1893 Mr. Kraemer assisted in organizing the Reading National Bank, and became one of its first directors, serving as such up to the present time. In 1900 he co-operated with capitalists in establishing the third trust company at Reading, and upon its organization under the name of the Colonial Trust Company he was elected president, and this responsible position he is still filling. After an existence of but a few years, the company erected a nine-story office building on Penn Square.



toward securing a convenient and prominent place for its business, and the building is not only the finest and largest of its kind at Reading, but also one of the finest in Pennsylvania, truly a monument to the enterprise and management of this financial institution and proving a most substantial investment.

Mr. Kraemer married, in 1877 Ella Kroll, of Huntingdon, Pa. They are active members of St. Paul's Memorial Reformed Church at Reading, and since their marriage have resided at Stony Creek. He has been serving as an elder of the congregation since January, 1906, filling a position which his father had filled for many years.

Louis Kraemer, the father, was born at Berleberg, in the province of Westphalia, Germany, on Jan. 2, 1828, and was brought up and educated in that place. He learned the trade of dyeing at Barmen on the Rhine river, a prominent textile manufacturing town. Upon completing a thorough apprenticeship, he emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1848, while still under age, and located at Manayunk, where he secured the position of dyer in the manufacturing plant of Joseph Ripka. He remained at this place three years, and then went to Norwich, Conn., to assume charge of two large dyeing establishments, one at that city and the other at Greenville, an adjoining town. After continuing there nearly fifteen years, he visited Reading, Pa., and becoming favorably impressed with this growing city as a promising center, he selected a site for a mill on the Antietam Creek, at a point three miles east from Reading. In 1861 they commenced making woolen goods under the name of Kraemer, Schaefer & Co. In 1879 the company was re-organized under the name of Louis Kraemer & Co., and the works have been operated under this name ever since. This industry has been very successful for over forty years, the goods manufactured obtaining a high reputation, and being shipped to all parts of the United States. Only naturally a thriving settlement was made in the vicinity of the plant by its employees, and this came to be known as Stony Creek, comprising nearly fifty dwellings, and a population exceeding 400. The leading spirit in the community was the founder of the plant which supports the people, all of whom respected him highly for his simple but noble nature and true Christian character. His love of people under and about him and the reciprocity between them was as admirable as it was appreciable.

Mr. Kraemer, the father, was married in 1852 to Catherine Priel, daughter of John Priel, of Westphalia. They were the parents of four children, of whom the son named is the only survivor. They were members of St. Paul's Memorial Reformed Church of Reading, being among the first members at its organization, when they withdrew from the First Reformed Church. The wife died in 1872, and the husband in 1903.

During the last twenty-five years of his life Mr. Kraemer made several trips across the ocean, giving special attention to Switzerland and Germany, not which countries he had a strong affection. The establishing of "Textile," a prominent industrial suburban town (since absorbed by Westchester), a mile west of Reading by young German manufacturers from Barmen on the Rhine, is directly attributable to his great success and influence.

SAMUEL BELL, clerk of the United States Circuit court at Philadelphia, for thirty-seven years, was born at Reading, Berks county, April 25, 1827. He was educated in private schools and at Yale College until his eighteenth year, when he went to Philadelphia to engage in the wholesale dry goods business. He served as a salesman until 1851, and then became a partner of B. A. Knicht, trading under the name of Knicht & Bell, for a number of years.

When the Civil war broke out, Mr. Bell enlisted and served three months. Afterward he acted as one of the commissioners to conduct the draft at Philadelphia; and he served as purveyor in the United States Regular Army by the appointment of President Lincoln. In February, 1865, he was elected a member of the Union

League, and he has been prominently identified with this influential organization until the present time. He became a member of the Mercantile Post Office, at Philadelphia, in 1868, and of the Local Legion in 1874, retaining his membership until now. He was elected as a member of the First City Troop of Cavalry at Philadelphia in 1861, and he is now the oldest surviving member of this popular and historic military society.

In 1870 Mr. Bell was appointed by Judge McKenna as the clerk of the United States Circuit court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and he filled this important office with great success for thirty-seven years, resigning Jan. 1, 1907, on account of his age. He was appointed United States Commissioner at Philadelphia in 1874, and he is still serving this office, notwithstanding his advanced years. He was elected a member of the board of school controllers, and filled the position by re-election for twenty-seven years, exercising a presidency of the board for twenty-two years.

His father was the Hon. Samuel Bell, merchant at Reading and associate judge of the courts of Berks county. He was born at Reading in 1795. For many years until his decease in 1865 he was a prominent member of the First Presbyterian church. He married Louisa Bowman, daughter of Jacob Bowman, of Brownsville, Pa., and their children were: Mary Greer, Jacob B., Samuel (deceased), Sterling, Goodloe B., Arthur G., James Lowrie, Mary Louisa and William Arthur.

His grandfather was William Bell, born in Ireland in 1755. He emigrated in 1791, and settled at Reading, Pa., where he was successfully engaged in the dry goods business and the manufacture of flour in several grist mills for many years, until his decease in 1835. He married Mary Greer, also born in Ireland, daughter of Arthur Greer, and they had an only child, Samuel.

DR. CHARLES MECK SLEETZER, physician at Philadelphia for thirty years, was born at Philadelphia March 7, 1857. He received his preliminary education in private schools and in the Eastburn Academy, which he attended until 1875, when he took up the study of medicine in the University of Pennsylvania graduating and receiving his diploma in 1878. He traveled abroad for a year, attending the hospitals in England, France, Italy and Germany, and upon his return was appointed resident physician of the Episcopal Hospital, which position he filled successfully for two years, afterward he attended the hospital as visiting physician from 1882 to 1887. In his private practice he was associated with Dr. Thomas A. Evans from 1887 to 1888, but since 1888 has been actively engaged in practice by himself. For fifteen years he lectured on Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene in the Eastburn Academy and during the year 1894 he filled the position of professor of Hygiene in the Medical-Chirurgical College. During his first ten years of private practice he was visiting physician and surgeon to numerous institutions, including the Charity Hospital, Northern Home, Odd Fellows Home, Aurora Home, and several others. Since 1895 he has been active as the supervising medical examiner of the Travelers Insurance Company of Hartford at Philadelphia, with many physicians under him. Of late years Dr. Sletzer has been busy withdrawing from active practice of medicine and devoting his time and energy to matters of hygiene, especially to the production of pure milk and a sanitary agriculture, also to the disposal of the waste of business offices, particularly garbage and its reduction to sanitary by products.

In 1885 he was married to Emily Smith, daughter of Joseph Smith, of Philadelphia, and they have a daughter, Mary Louise. His father was David B. Peter, son-in-law of Jonathan E. Sletzer, whose sketch appears in this publication, born at Woodstock in 1797. When he was a boy six years old his parents removed West, driving all the way and settling at Crookston in Ohio, where they were among the first settlers. He was educated there and remained on the farms at Crookston until 1835, when he went to Philadelphia and entered a wholesale grocery

store as a clerk, where he continued until 1847. He then formed a partnership with his cousin, Jacob Sheetz, for conducting a wholesale grocery and liquor business, and they were partners for fifteen years. Their store was at Third and Callowhill streets. In 1862 he became the sole owner and he continued at the same stand with increasing success until 1873, when he removed to a larger and more central property, No. 1017 Market street, which he had purchased. At this stand he became still more successful, with his trading relations extending throughout Pennsylvania and into the adjoining States; and he continued actively engaged until his decease in 1886, having been identified with the mercantile life of Philadelphia for forty years. He was largely interested for twenty years, in the "Continental Hotel," then the leading hotel of Philadelphia, and at his decease he was succeeded by his son Charles, who became president of the board of managers and officiated until 1903. He was married to Louisa Meck, a daughter of Isaac Meck, of Liverpool, in Perry county, Pa., and they had eleven children: Charles M.; Anna Maria, married to Dr. Henry A. Smith; Alice Louise; Susan May, married to John H. Zebley; Henry Fister, married to Margaret Moore; Ralph Edgar, married to Helen Thomas; Elizabeth Maud; Walter Harold, who died in 1903, aged twenty-six years; and three who died in infancy.

Dr. Seltzer's grandfather was David Seltzer, born in Heidelberg township, Berks county, at Womelsdorf, and he assisted his father at farming until 1829, when he moved with his family to Ohio. He was married to Elizabeth Sheetz, while at home, and they had five children, including a son Franklin Peter. Upon his first wife's death he married Margaret Kuntz, by whom he had two children, and after her decease he married a third wife, whose name was Kuhn. [For antecedents see sketch of J. R. Seltzer, in this publication.]

COL. NICHOLAS LOTZ was born Feb. 20, 1740, and emigrated to Pennsylvania when a young man. He first settled in the western section of the county, and there married a young woman by the name of Meyer. Some time previous to the Revolution he located at Reading, and became the owner of the two mills at the mouth of the Wyomissing Creek, which he conducted very successfully. When the struggle for independence began, he was prominently identified with the patriotic movements at Reading. He served as one of the ten delegates from Berks county to the Provincial Conference, which assembled at Philadelphia in June, 1776, and upon his return home, he took an active part in the enlistment of men. He was commissioned a Lieutenant-colonel, and participated in the movement of the "Flying Camp" from Philadelphia to New York, where he was engaged in the battle of Long Island and taken prisoner. He was admitted to parole within certain bounds on April 16, 1777, and exchanged on September 10, 1779. In 1780 he was appointed commissioner of Forage, and whilst serving this appointment he purchased a large amount of supplies for the army, consisting of flour, oats, cattle, sheep, etc. A receipt book of his still extant in 1893, shows receipts for money paid out from Aug. 12, 1780, to Dec. 5, 1781, aggregating \$202,033. He advanced large sums of money from his own purse for the government, but unfortunately was never fully repaid.

Colonel Lotz represented Berks county in the General Assembly from 1784 to 1786, and again from 1790 to 1794; and he filled the appointment of associate judge of the county from 1795 to 1806, having succeeded Colonel Joseph Hiester in that office. He died Nov. 29, 1807. He left to survive him, eight children, seven sons—Philip, Nicholas, Jacob, John, Henry, Michael, and William—and one daughter—Rosa (m. John Yeager). His remains were buried in the grave yard of the First Reformed Church at Reading, and from thence removed to the Charles Evans' Cemetery. He was a man of splendid physique, well proportioned, six feet three inches tall, and weighed about three hundred pounds.

In 1794 Gen. Washington, then President of the United States, visited Reading while on his way to Carlisle. Col. Lotz was at the head of a party of prominent men who arranged a military parade in honor of Washington. The latter reviewed the parade from a second story window of Federal Inn, the building now occupied by the Farmers' Bank.

Philip Lotz was the son of Col. Nicholas. His family Bible is in an excellent state of preservation, and the entries were made by himself. We copy these entries: My father, Nicholas Lotz, died on Nov. 29, 1807, aged 67 years, 9 months and 8 days. My dearest wife, Catharina Lotz, died March 13, 1831, aged 41 years and 14 days. His marriage record is as follows: April 16, 1797, Philip Lotz and Catharina Rapp were married. Philip Lotz had eleven children. The oldest was William, born April 4, 1799, who resided many years at No. 213 North Sixth street, Reading, and who aided largely in erecting the present St. John's Reformed church. Next to the youngest child was Mary, the late widow of Peres Hain, a well-known member of St. Paul's church. She was confirmed by Rev. William Pauli in the First church in 1834, soon after its erection.

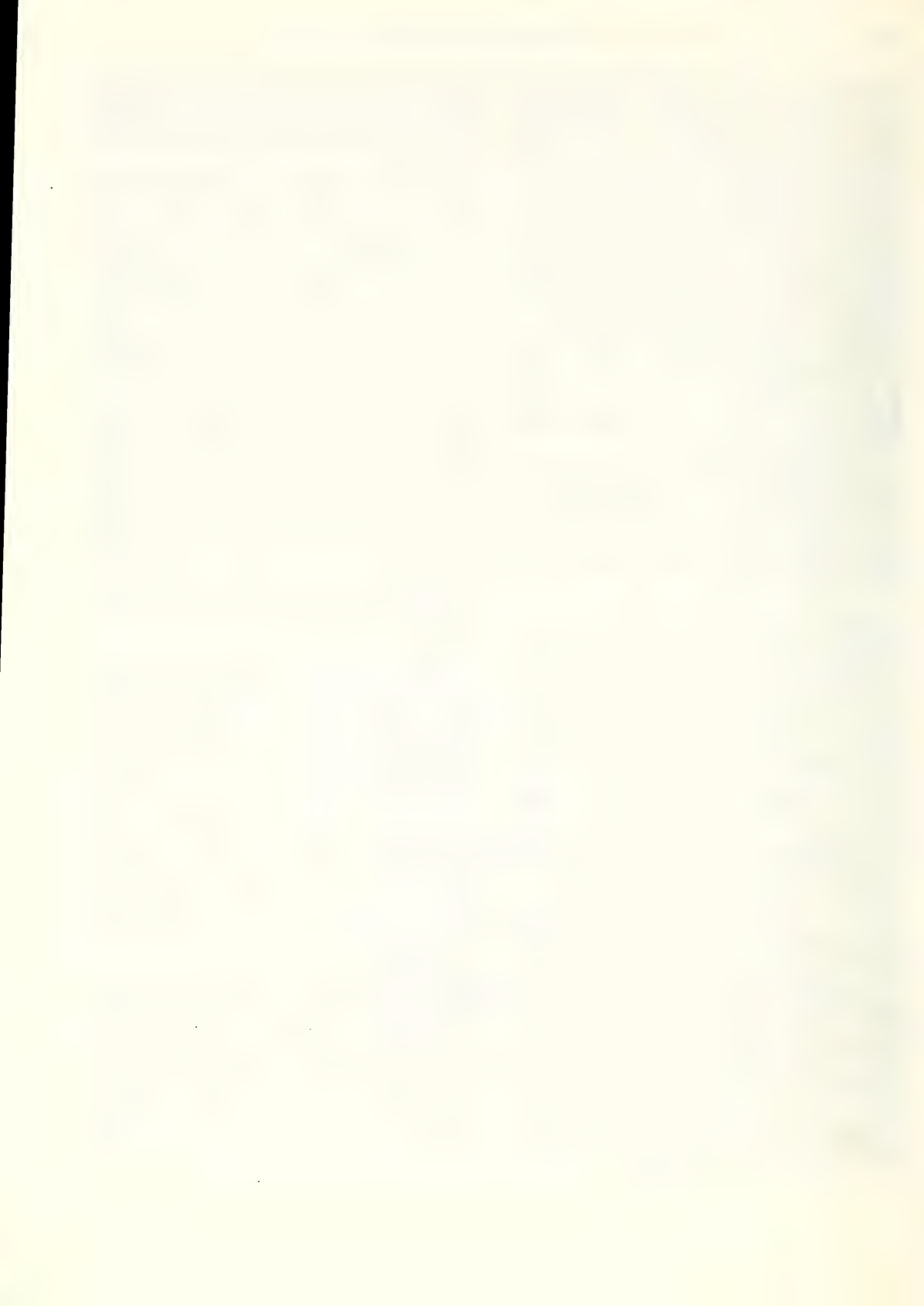
The Bible mentioned above is the property of Daniel Miller, author of "History of the Reformed Church in Reading," who also is the happy possessor of a large volume in German, which was the property of Col. Nicholas Lotz. It is a book of sermons which explain the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the catechism. It was published in Jena in 1658. Col. Lotz gave this book to his son John. On the fly leaf in the beginning of the book is this transfer: "This book belongs to John Lotz after my death. Witness my hand, written on the twenty-third day of November, 1806. Nicholas Lotz." On Jan. 18, 1808, John Lotz transferred the book to his brother Philip Lotz.

The descendants of Col. Nicholas Lotz are numerous in Reading. Mrs. Hoffman, wife of the late Rev. Henry Hoffman, was a great-grandchild. Mr. Chas. K. Snell, present secretary of the First church consistory, is a great-great-grandson.

GARRICK MALLERY, fourth President Judge of Berks county, was a native of Massachusetts. After obtaining a preliminary education, he entered Yale College and was graduated in 1809. He soon afterward became principal of an academy at Wilkes Barre. While occupying that position he engaged in the study of law, and was admitted to the Bar about 1812. Being well-adapted by nature to the legal profession, he added to his efficiency by diligent study, and soon acquired a practice which extended over a large portion of northern Pennsylvania. In 1825 he was elected a member of the House of Representatives, and during his legislative career was instrumental in securing the enactment of certain bills which led to the great improvement of the North Branch region. In 1832, Governor Wolf appointed him president judge of the Third Judicial District, then composed of Berks, Northampton and Lehigh counties, and he served the appointment for three years. The Hon. William Strong, of the Supreme court of the United States, was married to a daughter.

ELIJAH BULL was for about thirty years one of the important figures in the commercial world of Reading. He was probably best known in his connection with the Reading Stove Works, Orr, Painter & Co., of which firm he was a member for over thirty years before his retirement, thereafter continuing to serve as director until his death. Other business interests which made him prominent in the city were his association with the National Union Bank, the Building and Loan Association and the Reading Hospital. Mr. Bull was regarded with particular esteem as the architect of his own fortunes, for he rose to a position of distinction from ordinary circumstances.

Mr. Bull was born Jan. 20, 1835, at Springfield, Chester Co., Pa., son of Thomas and Sarah A. (Painter)



Bull, and grandson of Elijah Bull, the latter a native of Chester county, where he spent all his life. He owned and operated large tracts of farm land. He was mustered into the volunteer service of the war of 1812, but before the detachment of which he was a member reached the front the war had been brought to a close.

Thomas Bull, father of Elijah, was born in Springfield, Chester county, May 23, 1802, and there received his education. He was reared to farming which he followed in his native county until the spring of 1846, when he moved to Pottsville, Pa. There he took up the vocation of a blacksmith, but he died within a short time thereafter June 13, 1847. He married Sarah A. Painter, and they had five children: Margaret m. Levi Buckwalter, of Spring City, Chester Co., Pa.; Charles, late of Reading, was a stove moulder, engaged in the works of Orr, Painter & Co.; Elizabeth died in childhood; Elijah; and Mary m. the late B. F. Graff. Mr. Bull m. (second) Maria Criley, and to them were born two children, namely: Susan, m. to Reuben Rishel; and Thomas, who resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

Elijah Bull received a good education in the public schools of Chester county. Going to Philadelphia, he learned the trade of a stove molder, and there followed that occupation until he was thrown out of employment by the closing of the works on account of the panic of 1857. Thereafter until 1864 he worked part of the year at his trade, teaching school in Chester county during the winter months. In 1864 he began teaching in Mahanoy City, where he continued three years, during which time he became superintendent of the schools. On Jan. 1, 1867, he became a member of the firm of Orr, Painter & Co., manufacturers of stoves, hollowware and fine castings. In February, 1886, the firm was incorporated as the Reading Stove Works, Orr, Painter & Co. Soon after becoming a member of the firm Mr. Bull assumed charge of the shipping department, and discharged the duties of that position with fidelity until the death of Mr. Orr, in June, 1892, when he was made treasurer of the company. The latter position he retained until 1898, when he retired from active participation in the affairs of the company, though he continued to hold stock and serve as a member of the board of directors. The extent of the business done by this concern may be judged from the fact that over four hundred workmen were employed in the various departments, engaged in molding, casting, grinding, cleaning, grinding and polishing, nickelpating, finishing and mounting. Four branches are conducted—in Chicago, Boston, Buffalo and Philadelphia, representing thousands upon thousands of stoves made and sold annually. Mr. Bull was a director of the National Union Bank of Reading, and a member of the Building & Loan Association. He never took any active part in public matters, his business duties having occupied all his time and attention. He was a member of the board of managers of the Reading Hospital, and liberal and generous along lines of true philanthropy. Mr. Bull was a member of the Memorial M. E. Church of Reading, and was at one time president of its board of trustees. He joined the Odd Fellows in 1851, affiliating with Welcome Lodge, No. 229, of Philadelphia, and was also a member of Mt. Penn Lodge, Knights of Pythias. He enlisted for emergency service during the Civil war in the 42d regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

On Dec. 31, 1867, Mr. Bull married Mary A. Amole, whose father, George Amole, of Chester county, Pa., was born Oct. 12, 1802, and died Feb. 20, 1876. He was a farmer by vocation, and always resided in Chester county. Mr. Bull died Jan. 18, 1900, and his wife survived until Sept. 18, 1903. Their only child, Edna Marguerite, was married May 13, 1905, to Henry C. Keast, a native of Michigan, born Sept. 24, 1882, son of Charles and Anna E. (Eustice) Keast, both of whom were born in Cornwall, England. Mr. and Mrs. Keast have one child, Kenneth E., born Aug. 7, 1906.

Mr. Keast came to Reading in childhood and received his education in the public schools and the Interstate Commercial College. For some time he was chief pack-

er for C. K. Whitner & Co., leaving them in 1902 to enter the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, with which he has since remained. He is chief clerk to Mr. A. H. Kline, the Chief Inspector of Lumber of the Pennsylvania Railroad. He is a Republican in politics.

NATHANIEL POTTS HOBART was born in Philadelphia Oct. 3, 1790, read law in the office of John C. Smith, and was admitted to the Bar of his native city; removed to Pottstown, where he was appointed justice of the peace by Gov. Simon Snyder; joined Capt. Daniel De B. Keim's company of Washington Blues in August, 1814; marched with it to Camp Depont, and there joined the 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers Oct. 7, 1814, and served as fourth sergeant of the company until Dec. 5th of the same year, when they returned to Reading; admitted an attorney of the Berks County bar Jan. 3, 1818; was clerk in the prothonotary's office, under John Adams, for several years; was assistant clerk in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, under chief clerk Francis R. Shunk. In 1827 Governor Shulze appointed him clerk of the Orphans' court and court of Quarter Sessions of Berks county, which positions he held until 1830, when he removed to Pottstown. In 1826 he was appointed auditor-general of Pennsylvania by Governor Ritner, and held the office for three years. He resided at Pottstown from 1830 until his death July 3, 1860. He married April 18, 1813, Joanna Holland, and their children were: John Potts (who became an attorney in Pottsville), Sarah P., Eliza R., Anna Sophia, Robert H., Nathaniel B., William R. and Ellen G. Hobart.

EDWARD BURD was a practising attorney at Reading, having been admitted to practice in the courts of Berks county in 1772. He removed to Reading from Lancaster. When the company of Capt. George Nagel marched to Cambridge, in Massachusetts, during July and August, 1775, Burd was one of a number of devoted and patriotic sons who went along at their own expense; and when the "Flying Camp" was raised he was chosen major of Haller's regiment. In the Battle of Long Island, in August, 1776, he was taken prisoner, and while imprisoned addressed a letter to Hon. Jasper Yeates, at Lancaster. On August 12, 1778, he was appointed prothonotary of the Supreme court, and he continued to officiate in this position by re-appointment until Jan. 2, 1800. His autograph is reproduced herewith:

Edw Burd

JOHN SILVIS ERMEN'TROUT, second County Superintendent of Public Schools of Berks county (eldest son of William and Justina Silvis Ermentrout), was born at Womelsdorf, Berks county, Sept. 27, 1827. When he was two years old his parents removed to Reading, and there he was reared. Developing a great aptitude for study, he was sent to Marshall College, Mercersburg, Pa., from which he was graduated in 1845, the first honor man of his class, though not yet eighteen years of age. He remained in the college as a tutor, teaching the languages and lecturing on history. At the same time he was a student of the Theological Seminary connected with the institution, and from this seminary he was graduated in 1848, and then ordained as a minister of the Reformed Church.

For a time he was editor of the *Reformed Messenger*. In 1852 he was installed pastor of the Reformed Church at Norristown, Pa., where he served for six years. He returned to Reading in 1859, and opened a select school. One year afterward he was elected superintendent of the common schools, and he was twice re-elected, serving from 1860 to 1869. In 1865 he was active in founding the Keystone State Normal School at Kutztown, became its

first principal, and continued as such until 1871, when he resigned, preparatory to making a public profession of his faith in the Roman Catholic Church, and removed to Baltimore, where he edited a Catholic journal. Subsequently he taught in the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary at Overbrook, near Philadelphia.

In 1873, by the unanimous action of the board of trustees of the Keystone State Normal School, he was recalled to that institution, and he filled the chair of Mental and Moral Science and English Literature, until his death in 1881. The vast influence he exerted in educational matters can hardly be overestimated, and the institution which he promoted at Kutztown will always constitute an enduring monument to his memory.

JONATHAN JONES was a son of David Jones, one of the earliest settlers of Caernarvon township, Berks county. He was born in that township in 1758. Upon the breaking out of the Revolution he raised a company of Associators in that locality, and was appointed a captain in the 1st Pennsylvania Regiment, of the regular Continental army Oct. 25, 1775. He was ordered with his company to the "British Barracks," at Philadelphia, and acted as part of the escort of Martha Washington into Philadelphia. In December he was ordered into Northampton county, Va., to protect it against Lord Dunmore. The alarming state of affairs in Canada led to the revocation of this order, and, by command of Congress, he marched with his company of eighty-three men for Quebec, over the snow and "frozen lakes." This terrible midwinter march consumed two months. After the precipitate retreat from Quebec, he voluntarily returned, at the risk of capture, and recovered valuable papers. He was with Arnold in his pursuit of the British, after the battle of the Cedars, and took part in the battle of "Three Rivers," June 8, 1776. He shared the terrible and distressing sufferings of the army in its disastrous retreat to Ticonderoga, and underwent at that post the severe and exacting routine of military duty incident to its fortification and defense to resist the attack of General Carleton. He was stationed there from July 9 to Nov. 15, 1776. On Oct. 27th the time of enlistment of his men ran out, but through his exertions they consented to remain as long as the enemy was in their front. After a year's active service he was promoted to the rank of major, Oct. 25, 1776, and to lieutenant-colonel of his regiment, which had become the 2d under the new arrangement, March 12, 1777. His constitution was so shattered by the hardships and exposure of the campaign against Canada that he was obliged to return home to recruit his health in the winter of 1776-77. Having partially recovered, he rejoined his regiment in the spring of 1777, the command of which devolved upon him after the resignation of Col. James Irvine, June 1, 1777. Two companies of the regiment were then on duty in Philadelphia and the remainder were guarding the upper ferries of the Delaware. Increasing ill health, however, obliged him to resign his commission in the latter part of July. In December, 1778, he was appointed by the Assembly a commissioner under the test laws, and he was a member of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania from Berks county from October, 1779, to October, 1780. His health continued steadily to decline, and he was shortly afterward stricken with paralysis, of which he died, after a lingering illness, on Sept. 26, 1782, at the early age of forty-four. He was buried at Bangor Church, Churchtown, of which members of his family had been wardens and vestrymen from its earliest foundation.

HIESTER FAMILY. One of the old and important families of Berks county is that of Hiester, and the ancestry can be clearly traced to Johannes and Catherine Hiester, who spelled their name in German Huster. They had three sons who came to America, John, Joseph and Daniel by name. John, born in 1707, in 1750 married Mary Barbara Epler, and died in 1757. Joseph, born in 1710, married Elizabeth Strunk, and died in 1777.

Daniel, born in 1713, in 1742 married Catherine Schuler, and died in 1795. They were natives of the town of Elsoff, in the Grafschaft of Witgenstein, Westphalia, Germany. These brothers settled in Pennsylvania early in the eighteenth century, and their descendants have been more or less prominent in the various walks of life in the same section ever since.

Joseph Hiester came to America in 1738 and first went to live in Goshenhoppen, then Philadelphia (now Montgomery) county. Several years afterward Joseph and his brothers, John and Daniel, united in purchasing from the Proprietary government between two thousand and three thousand acres of land in Bern township, Berks county. Here Joseph and John settled, while Daniel remained at the old homestead in Goshenhoppen. Joseph and his wife Elizabeth had the following children: John, born in 1734, died in 1826; John Christian married Susan Reber; Catherine, born in 1738, died in 1813, married Nicholas Lieb; Daniel, born in 1761, died in 1827, married Magdalena Albright; one son married Barbara Kauffman; another son married Susan Anman; Ann Eliza, born April 8, 1766, married Jacob Van Reed; Joseph, born in 1768, died in 1830, married Elizabeth Beck; and William, born in 1770, died in 1828, married Anna Maria Bentz.

Daniel Hiester had several sons who were distinguished: John, born in 1746, was a member of Congress in 1807-08, resigned, and was succeeded by his son Daniel, who served in 1809-10; Daniel of Montgomery county, born in 1747, was a representative in Congress from Pennsylvania from 1789 to 1797, and from Maryland from 1801 to 1805; Gabriel, of Berks county, served thirty years in the State Legislature; William, the youngest son, for a short time served in the Continental army (his son William, born in 1791, of Lancaster county, was a member of Congress in 1833-35, and died Oct. 15, 1833).

The first named John Hiester had a son Joseph, who was a member of the convention to ratify the Constitution of the United States; was repeatedly elected to the State Senate and House; was a member of Congress in 1797-1807, and from 1815 to 1821, resigning to assume the governorship of Pennsylvania. He died June 10, 1832.

John Hiester, grandfather of John K. Hiester of Reading, was a son of the Joseph Hiester who was born in Germany in 1710. John was born in Bern township, Berks county, Sept. 25, 1754, and died Sept. 17, 1826. He is buried at Bern Church, which he helped to erect. He owned a tract of 200 acres, which was divided after his death into five shares. This was all woodland when he secured it. His wife was Catherine Albright, and they had the following children: John died unmarried; Ann Eliza married Jacob Gieding; William died unmarried; Daniel died unmarried; Catherine married David Bohn; Daniel died unmarried; John Christian married Catherine Kramer; Yost married Rebecca Reber; and Jacob.

Jacob Hiester, father of John K. Hiester, was born in Bern township July 1, 1801, and died in March, 1873. He was a lifelong farmer, and died on the farm on which he was born and on which he had spent his whole life. His portion of the old Hiester farm was some sixty-six acres, to which he had added twenty acres. In politics he was a Democrat, but he held no office except that of school director, a position he filled for six years. He and his family were members of the Bern Church, of which he was one of the leading elders. For many years he served as a lieutenant in the State militia, and he made a fine appearance, as he was a man of commanding presence. He married Susanna Kramer, daughter of John and Catherine (Ruhl) Kramer, of Bern township, and they had the following children: Adam, a farmer on the old homestead, married Rebecca Gring; Lydia married John Moyer, a farmer of Heidelberg township; Gabriel died young; John K. is residing at Reading; Catherine died unmarried.



John Jones

JOHN K. HIESTER was born in Bern township, on one of the old Hiester stands, Nov. 2, 1848. His education was obtained in the township schools, at a Reading academy, and at the Keystone State Normal School, at Kutztown. In the fall of 1866 he began teaching at Hiester's school in Bern township, and during the winter of 1868-69 he taught in Maiden-creek township; later taught one year in Bern township; three terms in Kusembanor township; three terms in Exeter township; one term in Jefferson; one term in Ontelaunee; two terms in Birdsboro; three terms in Cumru; two terms in Robeson, and then thirteen terms in Bern township, in all thirty-two terms, his services being given all over the county, with fifteen terms in his native township. He thus became widely known, and is held in high esteem, and he constantly meets his former pupils, many of whom never received other instruction than that he gave them.

During the summer months, until 1890, Mr. Hiester worked upon the farm in his native township, but in that year he came to Reading and in the following year he purchased his comfortable home at No. 314 South Thirteenth street, where he has resided ever since. After establishing his home at Reading he continued to follow his profession during the winter months until 1898-1899, when he taught for the last time. For five summer seasons he was in the employ of Alderman Griesemer and subsequently worked as labor boss and shipping clerk in the Johnson Foundry & Machine Company, where he continued for seven years; when that firm went out of business he went to the American Iron & Steel Company, where he has remained until the present.

On Oct. 30, 1890, Mr. Hiester married Hettie A. Deisher, born Oct. 30, 1857, a daughter of William and Sarah (Stayer) Deisher, the former of whom is a farmer and business man of Berks county. To Mr. and Mrs. Hiester have been born three children, namely: S. Adella, born Feb. 21, 1892; Morris W., born in August, 1893, who died in October, 1893; and William L., born June 17, 1895.

Mr. Hiester has spent almost all of his life in Berks county, but in January, 1869, he went to Lee county, Iowa, where he worked on a farm until his return to Berks county in the following October. Politically he is a Democrat. He is a member of Bern Union Church and of the Reformed denomination. His wife worships in Grace Lutheran Church.

THOMAS K. HIESTER, one of the prominent farmers of Bern township and a representative member of an old and leading family, was born where he now resides, Dec. 16, 1861. He is a son of Harrison K. Hiester and a grandson of John Christian Hiester (son of Joseph, born in 1710). The grandfather was a man of ample fortune, owning two farms near the well-known Bern Church, and he was noted both for his fine personal appearance and for his good judgment and foresight. He and his wife lie buried at Bern Church. He married Catherine Kramer, a native of Bern township. They had five children: Bennenille; Jared; Harrison K.; Washington, twin of Harrison, now residing on North Queen street, Lancaster, the oldest surviving member of this family; and Maria, who married John Eyrich.

Harrison K. Hiester, father of Thomas K., was born in Bern township Aug. 6, 1832, and died April 27, 1904; he was laid to rest in Bern churchyard. He was the owner of the old homestead, consisting of 134 acres, and later he bought an adjoining farm of 107 acres from his brother Bennenille, the transaction taking place in 1876. He was an enterprising farmer and a man of progress in his community. At the time of his death he was serving as school director. In politics he was a Democrat. He was a liberal supporter of the Reformed faith and of the Bern Church. He married Rosabella Kischner, born Sept. 16, 1834, who died Feb. 24, 1878, aged forty-three years, five months, eight days. They had issue as follows: Kate, widow of Aaron Bohn, lives at Mt. Pleasant; Ellen married J. E. Yeager; Thomas K. is mentioned below; Mary married Jonathan Oldinger, of Penn township; Rosa married Adam Gruber; Sallie, deceased,

married Cyrus Bohn; Annie married Henry Stamm, of Penn township; Jennima, unmarried, resides at Reading; Edward K. lives in Bern township; Harry lives in Penn township; Lizzie, residing in Bern township, is married to Grant Hartman.

Thomas K. Hiester was educated in the township schools and the Kutztown State Normal School, and in 1879 he taught school in Bern township. Then he was employed by his father until 1888, when he began to farm the homestead for himself; he bought the property in 1905. His farm contains 134 acres of very valuable land, which, under Mr. Hiester's excellent management, is very productive. Like the other members of his family he is identified with the Democratic party and is sound on all its doctrines. He has served on the township election board and in 1896 he was made a member of the school board, of which he has been president ever since, having twelve schools under his supervision. He is a leading member of the Bern Reformed Church and one of its deacons.

Thomas K. Hiester married (first) Eva Bohn, a daughter of Emanuel and Elvina (Krick) Bohn. She died Dec. 31, 1891, aged twenty-three years, seven months, nine days, and was buried at the Bern Church. She was survived by two children, William and Edna, the former of whom resides at home; the latter married Daniel Gicker, a well-known young man of this community. Mr. Hiester married (second) Ruth Fisher, daughter of James and Elizabeth Fisher, and they have had two children: Walter, who attends school; and Mabel, who died aged ten months, June 9, 1902.

EDWARD K. HIESTER, a well-known young farmer of Bern township and a member of the old Hiester family of this section, was born on the Hiester homestead May 1, 1871, son of Harrison K. and Rosabella (Kischer) Hiester. He attended the public schools of his native township and during 1888-89 was a student for two sessions at the Kutztown State Normal School, after which he worked for his father on the farm. In 1898 he began to farm for himself and bought one of the Hiester homesteads. It is valuable land, and Mr. Hiester has improved it by erecting fine buildings and modernizing his residence to a large degree, putting in a system of water pressure. His land adjoins the Bern Church property. In 1892 he married Sallie Schwoyer, daughter of Cornelius and Sarah (Looser) Schwoyer, of Centreport, Berks county, and they have the following children: Abner, Harry, Earl, Bertha, Edward J. and John.

Politically Mr. Hiester is a Democrat, and he has served as township assessor. He is serving in his third term in this office and is a popular public official. For two years he served as a deacon of the Bern Reformed Church.

COL. DANIEL UDREE was born in Philadelphia Aug. 5, 1751. Removing to Berks county, he settled in Oley township, where he became extensively engaged in the manufacture of iron. He operated the Oley Furnace and Rockland Forges very successfully for over thirty years, owning, in connection with those industries, several thousand acres of land. He was established in business by his uncle, Jacob Winey, a prominent capitalist and merchant of Philadelphia.

Colonel Udree was enlisted in the Revolutionary war for several years, commanding a regiment at the battle of Brandywine where his horse was shot under him. He took an active part in the local militia for many years, and served as major-general for one term of seven years about 1815. He represented Berks county in the General Assembly from 1799 to 1803, and also for the year 1805, and while there showed an earnest interest in legislation relative to public internal improvements in the State. He was the representative in Congress for the Berks District for two terms, from 1813 to 1815, and from 1823 to 1825. It was while he was at Washington, during his last term in Congress, that John Quincy Adams was elected President. He, however, was one of Jackson's supporters. He died July 15, 1828, leaving a large estate. He was the last really prominent and representative man



who lived in Oley, and one of the few Congressmen selected from the country districts of the county. He was a well-developed man, rather below the medium height, and his conversational manner was quick and nervous.

JOHN BANKS, the fifth President Judge of Berks county, serving from 1836 to 1847, was born near Lewisburgh, Juniata county, Pa., in the year 1793. His paternal grandfather emigrated from Scotland. His father being a farmer, his youth was spent mostly on a farm, but the advantages of a liberal education were not denied him. He entered upon the study of law, was admitted to the Bar in 1819, and soon after removed to the western part of the State. He located in Mercer county, and there attained eminence at the Bar. Without any solicitation on his part he was nominated and elected a representative in Congress and twice re-elected, serving from 1821 to 1836. He won distinction in Congress by his treatment of contested election cases. In the spring of 1836, he vacated his seat in Congress to accept the appointment of president judge of the Third Judicial District of the State, composed of the counties of Berks, Lehigh and Northampton. His superior qualities soon won for him the full confidence of the people. No man was ever more obliging and condescending to his juniors than he, and no man ever lived in Reading whose companionship was more highly prized by so varied a circle of friends. Having spent eleven years as president judge of the court, he resigned the position in 1847 and accepted the office of State treasurer of Pennsylvania, in which he served one term. In 1841, while judge of the courts, he was nominated by the Whig party for the office of governor of Pennsylvania, but was defeated by David R. Porter, the Democratic nominee. He was subsequently nominated by the Whig members of the State Legislature, when in the minority, as their candidate for United States senator. Upon his retirement from the Bench, Judge Banks resumed the practice of the law, and soon became the acknowledged leader of the Berks county Bar. He continued in his profession until his death, April 3, 1864, enjoying a very extensive and lucrative practice.

DR. WILLIAM F. MUHLENBERG, physician at Reading since 1872, and a lineal descendant of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, recognized as the founder of the Lutheran Church in America, was born in Gettysburg, Pa., Nov. 18, 1852, while his father was filling the position of Professor of Greek in the Pennsylvania College at that place. His preliminary education was obtained at that institution, and he was graduated from Muhlenberg College at Allentown, Pa., in 1868, of which his father had become the president. Then he entered the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated in 1872. Selecting Reading as a promising field for practicing his chosen profession, he located in that city, won the confidence of the people, and soon secured a lucrative practice, which he has held until the present time. In 1884 he was appointed surgeon for the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad Company, for cases arising at and in the vicinity of Reading, and he has since served this position in a most satisfactory manner. During this long period he has also served as a surgeon at the Reading Hospital.

Dr. Muhlenberg has been an active member of the Berks County Medical Society, and also of the Reading Medical Society, for many years, having officiated as president of these bodies, and he is recognized by them as a most skillful surgeon, as well as a general practitioner. For social diversion, he has identified himself with the Wyomissing Club, and the Berkshire Club at Reading; also with the University Club and the Country Club at Philadelphia; in all of which he has shown great interest.

Dr. Muhlenberg was married, in 1884, to Augusta Muhlenberg, daughter of Hiester H. and Katharine (Hunter) Muhlenberg, of Reading, and by her he has three children: Hiester (who graduated from the Pennsylvania University in 1908); Frederick Augustus (who

graduated from the Reading high school in 1904, and Pennsylvania College in 1908); and Augusta. His wife died in 1890. He and his children are members of Trinity Lutheran Church. His wife's father was prominently identified with the financial interests and enterprises of Reading for many years, having filled the office of cashier of the Farmers Bank from 1842 until his decease in 1881.

Rev. Dr. Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, father of the Doctor, was born at Lancaster in 1818, and died in Reading in 1901. He was very prominently connected with higher education in several colleges of Pennsylvania for sixty years, the last important position being that of professor of Greek at the University of Pennsylvania. His wife was Catharine Muhlenberg, daughter of Major Peter Muhlenberg, of Reading. She died in 1894 aged sixty-seven years. They had four sons; Ernest A., Henry M., Francis B., and William F.

Rev. Dr. Henry Ernest Muhlenberg, his great-grandfather, was also of Lancaster, and his maternal great-grandfather was the distinguished Revolutionary hero, Gen. Peter Muhlenberg.

FREDERICK SMITH, Attorney General and Associate Justice of Pennsylvania, and one of the most distinguished men that Berks county produced, was born at Reading in 1774. He was a son of the Rev. John Frederick Smith, an eminent divine of the Lutheran Church in Pennsylvania, and one of the pioneers of that denomination in America. He obtained a superior classical education, and, selecting the law as his profession, after a careful preparation was admitted to the Bar at Reading Aug. 7, 1795. He soon won prominence and distinction, both as a counselor and as an attorney in important litigation. In the meantime he became actively interested in local politics, and served as a member of the Legislature in 1802 and 1803. He was appointed deputy attorney-general for Berks county in 1818, and filled that position three years. He served from 1823 to 1828 as attorney-general of Pennsylvania, and as an associate justice of the Supreme Court from 1828 until the time of his death. His judicial career, though brief, was distinguished. He died at Reading Oct. 4, 1830. He was a member of the Roman Catholic church. He married Catharine Leaf, of Philadelphia. His two sons, Henry W. Smith, Esq., and George Smith, were prominent in the local affairs of Reading for fifty years anterior to 1873, when they died.

JONES. The Jones family was founded in this country by Rev. Thomas Jones, who was born in the year 1702 in Newtonottage, Glamorganshire, Wales. In 1729 he married Martha Morris, and in 1737, they came to America with several children, arriving at Philadelphia on July 22d of that year. Rev. Thomas Jones first settled in the Great Valley of Chester county, Pa., where he took up lands, and where his neighbors included a number of Baptists, mostly of his own nationality, some of whom had crossed the Atlantic over thirty-five years earlier. In 1711 they had organized the Great Valley Baptist Church, and in 1719 the Montgomery Church. In 1738 a number of these people, all of Welsh extraction, members of the Great Valley and Montgomery Baptist Churches, removed to Lancaster county, Pa., settling along the Tulpeocken creek, near its junction with the Schuylkill river, and also southwardly along that river, opposite what is now the city of Reading. The adults of this little company were as follows: Thomas Jones and wife; David Evans and wife; James James and wife; Evan Lloyd and wife; George Rees and wife; John Davis and wife; Thomas Nicholas and wife; James Edwards and wife; Rees Thomas and wife; Henry Harry; David Lewis and Thomas Lloyd. These twenty-one persons, finding themselves to be too far from their respective churches, requested leave to be constituted into a distinct society, which accordingly was done Aug. 19, 1738, and the same year the new church joined the Philadelphia Association of Baptist Churches. In the year 1740 Thomas Jones was ordained a minister and became pastor of this church, which was called the Tulpeocken Baptist Church, after

the river which runs through the neighborhood. For two years services were held in a small log cabin erected on the property of Hugh Jones, but in 1710 the congregation built two meeting houses on lands presented to it—one about six miles from the Schuylkill river at Sinking Spring and the other several miles nearer the river. The church continued to prosper for a time, but became extinct sixty years later, "owing to the departure of Baptist families to other parts, and the coming of Germans in their stead." The lands owned by the church passed into the possession of the Philadelphia Baptist Association. Those parts on which the ancient graveyards are located are still held by the Philadelphia Baptist Association, but are at present under the care of the First Baptist Church of Reading.

Rev. Thomas Jones died March 22, 1788, in his eighty-seventh year, and his wife Martha (Morris) died June 9, 1799, in her ninety-third year. They are buried in the graveyard of the Great Valley Baptist Church in Chester county, where their graves are suitably marked. Their children were: Thomas, Samuel, Griffith, Elizabeth and Sarah. They became allied by marriage with the Davis, Broomfield, Spicer, Lloyd and Cornog families, and from them sprang a host of descendants, many of whom still live in the vicinity of the homes of their fore-fathers, though the majority are widely scattered over the United States.

Thomas Jones, son of Rev. Thomas and Martha (Morris) Jones, was born in Wales in 1733. On Oct. 6, 1762, he married Mary Broomfield, and to them were born the following named children: Martha, Susanna, Sarah, Mary and Samuel. Of these, Martha m. Llewellyn Davis; Sarah m. Roger Davis; Mary m. Mr. Geiger; Susanna m. Dr. Kuhn, of Lancaster, Pa. The father of this family was a large land holder in Heidelberg township, Berks county, and was a farmer by occupation. "At the very beginning of the Revolution he assisted in organizing the Associates of Berks county, and was in active service for a time as major of one of the battalions of this county." He was one of the eight delegates from Berks county to the Provincial Convention which met at Philadelphia July 15, 1776, "for the express purpose of forming a new government in this Province on the authority of the people only." The convention appointed a committee of Safety, approved the Declaration of Independence, and prescribed for justices of the peace, oaths of renunciation of the authority of George III., and oaths of allegiance to the State of Pennsylvania. Dr. Benjamin Franklin was president of the convention. Thomas Jones was commissioner of Berks county from 1779 to 1786. He died in March, 1800, and is buried in the Baptist graveyard at Sinking Spring. He was the last surviving male member of the Tulpehocken Baptist Church. His wife, who survived him several years, was buried at his side, and their graves were marked, but the stones were removed.

Samuel Jones, son of Thomas and grandson of Rev. Thomas, was born on the homestead in Heidelberg township where his father erected a house in 1775. This house is still standing. He was a farmer by occupation, owned a large and valuable tract of land in Heidelberg township, and had slaves, whom, however, he set free. The most noted of these slaves was Dinah Clark, a well known character in Reading in her day. The negro quarters occupied by the slaves on the Heidelberg farm are still standing. Samuel Jones donated the land upon which the eight-cornered building at Sinking Spring—used first as a Baptist meeting house, later as a school house, now as a dwelling—was erected. The original deed of this property is held by the First Baptist Church of Reading.

Samuel Jones married Elizabeth Huey, and to them were born four children, Thomas H., John H., Margaret and Mary C.

(1) Thomas H. Jones was engaged in the iron business at Leesport, this county, and at the Windsor Furnace at Hamburg. He married Elizabeth Van Reed Evans, and their children, Mary E. and Elizabeth E. Jones, are living in Reading.

(2) John H. Jones married Margaret (Seitzinger) Van Reed, widow of Joshua Van Reed, and to them were

born four children, namely: M. Agnes, wife of Hon. James K. Getz, at one time mayor of Reading; Ellen A., widow of Dr. Christian N. Hoffman; Elizabeth, widow of Dr. S. H. Clemens, of Allentown, Pa.; and William W., deceased, who lived at Robesonia.

(3) Margaret Jones m. Dr. Darrah.

(4) Mary C. Jones m. Jacob Van Reed.

Samuel Jones, D. D., son of Rev. Thomas Jones, was born Jan. 14, 1735. In his youth he was baptized into the membership of the Tulpehocken Baptist Church. He was educated in the College of Philadelphia, graduating in 1762, was ordained to the ministry in 1763, and became pastor of the Pennepek Baptist Church, which was organized in 1683, and is now known as the Lower Dublin Church of Philadelphia. He retained that pastorate for fifty years, and he was known as one of the most scholarly Baptists of his day, being the most influential minister of his denomination in the Middle Colonies. The Philadelphia Baptist Association in 1764 sent him to Rhode Island to assist in founding Rhode Island College, now Brown University. He remodeled the rough draft of the college charter, which then received the sanction of the Colony of Rhode Island. Later he was offered the presidency of the college but did not accept it. "He exerted a vast and useful influence over the rising Baptist Churches of our country, and himself educated many young men for the Christian ministry. He was a large and firmly built man, his face was the image of intelligence, and good nature, which, with the air of dignity that pervaded his movements, rendered his appearance uncommonly attractive." He died Feb. 7, 1814, and is buried in the Lower Dublin Church.

JACOB MORGAN was the most prominent Revolutionary character of Berks county from 1777 to 1780, and as such brought great credit to the county and great honor to himself. He was born in the district of Caernarvon, in the northern part of Wales, in 1716, and emigrated with his father, Thomas Morgan, to Pennsylvania some time previous to 1730. About that time a colony of Welsh people, including Thomas Morgan and his family, migrated up the Schuylkill Valley from Philadelphia to the mouth of the French creek, and thence along and beyond the headwaters of that creek until they reached the headwaters of the Conestoga creek, in Caernarvon township. There they settled and took up large tracts of land. That section of territory was then a part of Lancaster county, but since 1752 a part of Berks county. The tract taken up by his father was at and in the vicinity of Morgantown. It included the town-plan which he came to lay out in 1770, and which he named after the family, a custom quite common in that day throughout the county.

When the French and Indian War came to affect Pennsylvania in 1755, Jacob Morgan was thirty-eight years old, and until that time had been engaged at farming. In December of that year, he was commissioned as a captain under the Provincial government, and he continued actively engaged in this military service until 1760, when he returned home and resumed farming. When the Revolution began, he was nearly sixty years of age. In June, 1776, he was selected to represent the county as a delegate to the Provincial Conference, and in July following as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention. In 1777, upon the creation of the office of lieutenant of the several counties for the purpose of aiding the Executive Council in effectively prosecuting the war, he was selected by the Council to fill this very important position. This preference evidences his distinguished character, for at that time Berks county possessed a number of prominent and influential men. In the prompt and faithful performance of his duties he was very successful, the Executive Council in their letters to him frequently complimenting his energy in having the county fill promptly the numerous orders for troops. He resigned in December, 1780. While filling this office he was always recognized as a colonel, and was addressed as such by the Executive Council. He officiated as a judge of the county for the years 1768, 1769, 1772, and from 1774 to 1777; and also as a justice of the

peace for the southern district of Berks county (which included Cermarson township), from 1777 to 1791. His autograph follows. He died at Albiontown on November 11, 1792, and was buried in the graveyard of the St. Thomas Episcopal Church at that place. He had two sons, Jacob and Benjamin; and three daughters, Sarah (m. a Jewell); Mary (m. Nicholas Hudson); and Rebecca (m. John Price, an attorney at Reading). Rachel, a daughter of John Price, m. Samuel Wetherill, of Philadelphia.

Jacob Morgan

ROBERT PORTER was the third President Judge of Berks county. He was the eldest son of Gen. Andrew Porter, and was born at Philadelphia Jan. 10, 1768. When only eight years old the Revolution had begun in earnest and his father had enlisted to serve the United Colonies. Toward the close of the war, his father was colonel of the 4th Pennsylvania Regiment of Artillery, and Judge Porter, when only thirteen years of age, was enlisted in one of the companies under the command of his father. At the conclusion of the war, he resumed his studies at Philadelphia, and selecting the law as his profession was admitted to practice May 15, 1782. After being engaged in a successful practice for twenty years at Philadelphia, he in 1810 was appointed president judge of the Third Judicial District, which comprised the counties of Berks, Northampton and Wayne. He filled this honorable position for twenty-two years, and then resigning his commission retired to private life. He resided at Reading, on the northwest corner of Fifth and Penn streets, during his term of office. He died June 23, 1832, at Brookside, Pa., aged seventy-four years. He was a man of unusual learning and superior legal attainments. Henry M. Dechert, Esq., of Philadelphia, whose sketch and portrait appear in this publication, is a grand son.

DR. NATHAN C. SCHAEFFER, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, was born Feb. 3, 1849, in Massachusetts township, Berks county. He was educated in Massachusetts Seminary (now Pennsylvania State Normal School), Franklin and Marshall College at Lancaster, Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, and in the Universities of Berlin, London and Leipzig. He then taught in Massachusetts College, and Franklin and Marshall College, and for sixteen years was principal of the Reading State Normal School at Reading. In 1895 he was elected President of the National Educational Association at Albany Park, N. Y. He has served the following prominent positions: President of the Pennsylvania State Teachers' Association; secretary of the National Council of Education; president of the Department of Superintendence of the National Association; president of the Pennsylvania Governor's Society; Counselor of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce from 1901 to 1905; member of the Pennsylvania Commission on Industrial Education; and editor of the Pennsylvania School Journal, since 1897. He is editor of a volume of Bible Readings for a school; author of "Thinking and Learning to Think," and of "History of Education in Pennsylvania," contained in three volumes of "History of the State," published by the Mason Publishing Company at New York, N. Y. He was commissioned State Superintendent of Public Instruction on June 1, 1897, and re-commissioned in 1907, 1901, and 1905. He served as Lecturer on Pedagogy in the Graduate Department of the University of Pennsylvania during the absence of Dr. Brunsbach, while serving as Commissioner of Education in Pennsylvania (1900-1901).

Dr. Schaeffer is a son of David Schaeffer of Massachusetts township, and Esther Ann Christ has been daughter of Solomon Christ and Elizabeth Fisher his wife, of the same township. He married Anne Adams of Othman town, Pa., and they have seven children: Charlotte, Helen

(m. Post, Huff), John, Frederick (teaching at Mercersburg), Grace, Annie and Mary.

HIRAH SCHWARTZ, first Orphans' court judge of Berks county, from 1882 to 1891, was born in Massachusetts township, near Lutztown. In 1841 he went to Lehigh county and there worked on a farm, and while so engaged attended the local schools until he was sixteen years old. He continued his preparatory education in the Van Deyver Boarding School for several years, then entered Franklin and Marshall College, and after taking a regular course was graduated in 1857. Upon returning home he engaged in teaching public school for two years, and then he was elected school superintendent of Lehigh county, an office he very successfully filled from 1857 to 1860. During this time he took up the study of the law at Allentown, in the office of the Hon. Samuel A. Brides, and was admitted to practice in 1858. After practicing at Allentown two years, he located at Lutztown and he continued in active practice in Berks county until he received the appointment of Judge of the Orphans' court in June, 1882, from Governor Pattison, which office had been created by a special Act of Assembly, and at the next election in November of that year he was elected for the term of ten years. He officiated until his death Aug. 25, 1891, after a protracted illness. After having located at Lutztown in 1860 he became interested in various enterprises there. He was particularly interested in the cause of education, and identified himself with the establishment of the Keystone State Normal School, which he served as a trustee until his decease.

GEORGE D. PENROSE (deceased) was born in Maiden creek township, Berks Co., Pa., son of Ephraim and Lydia Ann (South) Penrose. The Penrose family is a very prominent one in Pennsylvania, of English descent and of Quaker belief.

Ephraim Penrose was a life-long farmer of Maiden creek township, where he owned and operated a valuable farm. He and his wife were members of the Society of Friends, he belonging to the Hackett branch, and she to the Orthodox. They had one child, George D.

George D. Penrose was educated in the common schools of Berks county, passed through the high school at Reading, and took an advanced course at Lehigh Valley College, the great Quaker educational institution which ranks with Yale and Harvard. While he was still a youth he learned telegraphy, and after completing his education he followed it for some years and subsequently became an operator for the Berks & Lehigh Railway Company. In 1877 he accepted a similar position with the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company, and on promotion was sent to the general office in Philadelphia. He was a young man of marked ability, and continued to find recognition with his employers, and became assistant auditor for the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company. He was filling this important position at the time of his death, which took place Aug. 2, 1889, as the result of an accident. It had been the custom of him to write to spend the summer season at Atlantic City, where Mr. Penrose secured the 1000 Exchange, and it was during a season there that he was drowned. This calamity was a source of universal regret to his family, his employers and to a very large circle of friends.

On Oct. 16, 1844 Mrs. Penrose was married to Catherine M. Yarrington, daughter of Thomas O. and Catherine (Fletcher) Yarrington, both of English descent. The child was born to this marriage, Edwin V. In political faith Mr. Penrose was a Republican. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow.

The Yarringtons came from England early in the 17th century, and were among the earliest settlers in Southampton Co., Md. Yarrington, grandfather of Thomas O., left Connecticut in 1731 and settled in Wilks, Harris Co., where he established the first ferry across the Susquehanna at that point. He was a soldier in the Revolution. On his sons, two in number, the third was Luther.

Luther Yarrington, son of Abel, was born in 1776, and died at Wilks, Harris, in 1856. He married Hannah

Abbot, a descendant of George Abbot. The latter, a native of Yorkshire, England, born in 1615, emigrated to America in 1640, and became one of the founders of Andover, Massachusetts.

Thomas O. Yarrington, son of Luther and Hannah, was reared in Wilkes Barre. He became a civil engineer, and followed that profession for many years. He died June 3, 1905, aged eighty-six years. He married Catharine S. Feather, daughter of William and Margaret (Strohecker) Feather. Mrs. Yarrington died Dec. 7, 1902, the mother of seven children; Abbot died in infancy; William F., of Mauch Chunk, m. Hannah (Dodson) Alsover; Luther A., of Reading, m. Emily McCauley, daughter of the Rev. C. A. McCauley, and had two children—Edith (deceased) and Charles (deceased in November, 1905, aged ten years); Amelia m. George W. Manning, of New York, and has one daughter, Grace Y.; Thomas O., of Reading, m. Emma Heatherington; Catharine M. is Mrs. Penrose; and Margaret m. William H. Albright, a job printer at Reading, and has two children—William Y. and Frank Y. The Yarringtons are all members of the Episcopal Church. Peter Feather, great-grandfather of Mrs. Catharine S. (Feather) Yarrington, appeared on the list of taxables in Reading in 1759. Peter Feather, Jr., son of Peter, was born in Reading, and in 1788 he married Margaret Van Kenna, daughter of Baltzer and Maria A. (Levan) Van Kenna, and granddaughter of Casper Van Kenna. Maria A. (Levan) Van Kenna was born in Exeter in 1730, daughter of Isaac Levan, one of the first settlers.

William Feather, son of Peter, Jr., and Margaret, was born in 1791, and died in 1849. He owned and conducted a tannery at Hamburg, Berks county, at the time of his death. He married Margaret Strohecker, who was born in Reading in 1796, daughter of John and Julianna Strohecker, residents of Reading a century ago. Mrs. Margaret (Strohecker) Feather died at Hamburg in 1874. John Strohecker, Sr., father of John and grandfather of Mrs. Feather, served in the Revolution as first lieutenant, Capt. George Will's Company, Major Hiester's Battalion of Militia, of Berks county, Pa., in service at Newtown, Jan. 2, 1777.

DAVID F. GORDON, seventh President Judge of Berks county, from 1849 to 1851, was born at Philadelphia Nov. 20, 1795. He received a classical education at the University of Pennsylvania, studied law and was admitted to practice in 1816. He remained in that city until 1824, when he removed to Reading and was admitted to practice in the several courts of Berks county. He continued in active practice here for eight years, and then purchased the *Berks and Schuylkill Journal*, a weekly English newspaper, published at Reading. He published this paper very successfully until 1838, then sold it and resumed his law practice. After practising for eleven years, he was appointed president judge of the county, which had just been erected into a separate judicial district. He remained on the Bench until December, 1851, retiring then by virtue of the amendment to the Constitution, under which the office of judge became elective, and the Hon. J. Pringle Jones was chosen to fill this position for ten years. He was recognized as an able judge, and thoroughly conscientious in the performance of his judicial duties. Upon retiring from the Bench, he resumed his legal practice at Reading. He died Dec. 27, 1859.

ALBERT J. BRUMBACH, manufacturer and banker at Reading, was born at Brumbach's Woolen Mills in Exeter township, Berks Co., Pa., Oct. 11, 1840. He was educated in the township schools and at Lee's Academy in Reading until he was fourteen years old, when his father placed him in the woolen mills which he was operating, to learn the manufacturing business, and after learning the business thoroughly in all its departments, he, upon arriving of age, purchased the premises. Shortly afterward the building was burned down, but he immediately rebuilt the mill, introducing the latest improved machinery. This was in 1864, and the plant was named the St. Lawrence Mills, after a certain grade of woolen cloth which his

father had begun to manufacture there in 1856, and sell through a commission house at Philadelphia. The building is built of stone, two stories high, and has at present three sets of machines which are run by steam, as well as water-power supplied by the Antietam creek flowing near by. Various improved machines have been substituted for old machines to meet the demands of the business. Seventy hands are generally employed, and the product consists chiefly of mixed cassimeres. The goods were sold through commission houses and merchants at Philadelphia until 1870; then until 1895 by traveling salesmen who developed in this way a large and profitable trade throughout the greater part of the United States. In 1895 Mr. Brumbach established a fine three-story brick factory at Reading (14th and Muhlenberg streets) for the manufacture of pants and vests, and since then he has been converting the cloths produced at the St. Lawrence Mills into all sizes and styles of the articles mentioned. He employs there 120 hands, and has a large and constant demand for his goods.

Besides carrying on his two plants very successfully, Mr. Brumbach has shown an enterprising spirit in other affairs, relating to internal improvements for the public welfare, as well as to manufactures. He took an active part in establishing the Oley Turnpike from Black Bear to Pleasantville, acting as a director of the corporation since 1878, and as secretary since 1888; he was prominent in building the East Reading Electric Railway from Ninth and Penn streets, in Reading, to Black Bear in 1888 (which was the first street railway operated by electricity at Reading), and he has officiated as president of the company from the beginning until the present time. He assisted in establishing the Penn National Bank of Reading in 1883, serving as a director since then, and as president since 1897; the Reading Cold Storage & Ice Company in 1900; the Reading Glove & Mitten Company; the Penn Shoe Company in 1902, and the Printz Furniture and Carpet Company in 1907 (embracing large stores at Hazleton, Rochester and Newark); all of which he has served as a director, and of the glove works as president since 1905. He was prominently identified with the rebuilding of the Schwartzwald Church in Exeter township by acting as chairman of the meeting, in 1870, which took earnest steps in behalf of the new church; also with the extension and improvement of the fine cemetery there, serving as secretary of the company for about twenty years until 1903; and for many years he was connected with the choir as one of the singers. He has been affiliated with the Freemasons at Reading (Chandler Lodge) since 1861.

In 1862 Mr. Brumbach married Sarah Ann Dunkel (daughter of Solomon Dunkel, of Exeter); by whom he had six children: Solomon, superintendent of the St. Lawrence Mills, m. Margaret Ermentrout; William, book-keeper at mills, m. Edwina Jack; Albert, superintendent of pants factory, m. Carrie Esterly; Ida m. Stockton Snyder, and both were killed in the Honda wreck, California, May 11, 1907; Kate m. William J. Ermentrout; and Emma m. Custer Ammon.

Mr. Brumbach's father, William Brumbach, was born in 1814 in Exeter township, where his father became the owner of a woolen mill in 1830, and while still a boy was put in the mill to learn the business. In 1842, he and his brother Jacob became the owners of the plant, and they carried on the business as partners for three years when Jacob withdrew. William then operated the plant himself in a successful manner until 1853, when he purchased the Housum grist mill (which was situated along the Antietam creek near by), and from that time he carried on the two mills until they were destroyed by fire in 1863. He then went to Union county, Pa., and became a partner of Marr, Griffee & Co., who owned and operated the White Deer Woolen Mills. A few years afterward the senior partner died, and the firm name became Griffee & Brumbach, and this firm carried on the plant until Mr. Brumbach's decease in 1908. He was married twice. His first wife was Sarah Spots, daughter of Jacob Spots, who carried on farming and butchering in Exeter, in the

vicinity of the woolen mills. To this union were born four children: Emma m. Jacob A. Strohecker; Albert J.; Sarah m. William K. Leithiser; and Elizabeth m. J. B. Stauffer. His second wife was Rachel Schneider, daughter of David, of Oley, and by her he had four sons, David, George W., Aaron and Thomas, who learned the business of manufacturing woolen cloth with Albert J., and they have been operating a plant of their own at St. Lawrence under the name of Brumbach Brothers; and one daughter, Mary, m. C. O. Snyder. He died in 1868; his first wife died in 1847, aged twenty-eight years; his second wife Rachel Schneider is still living at age of eighty-two years.

Mr. Brumbach's grandfather was Jacob Brumbach, who had learned the fulling business at the De Turck mill in Exeter, near Monocacy, and in 1830 purchased a small plant established along the Antietam creek near where the St. Lawrence Mills are located, which he operated until 1842 when he sold the property and business to his two oldest sons, William and Jacob. He died in 1873, aged ninety-four years. He was married twice: first to Dorothy Bar (born 1788, died 1822), and second to Susanna Gumbert (born 1795, died 1836), and had eight children, viz.: Lydia m. John Wagner; William; Jacob m. Sarah Kline; Lewis m. Elizabeth Ann Tea; Catharine m. William Levan; Louisa m. Moore John; Rebecca m. William Levan; and Daniel m. Lydia DeGour, living at Covington, Kentucky.

Mr. Brumbach's wife's father, Solomon Dunkel, was a farmer of Exeter. He married Elizabeth Althouse, of Bern township, and they had children: Sarah Ann; Amelia m. Amos Dick; Mary m. John Hoyer; Caroline m. Henry Egolf; Miss Elizabeth; Morgan died 1858; Kilian m. Mary Messinger; David, and James.

ADAM B. DUNDOR, M. D., a retired physician and surgeon of Reading, Pa., was born in North Heidelberg, Berks county, May 17, 1838, son of Isaac Dundor, and a member of the fifth generation from the emigrant ancestor who came from Alsace-Lorraine to Philadelphia in 1741. The family is of French Huguenot stock, and the name was originally spelled Dundeur.

Jacob Dundor, founder of the Dundor family in America, was born July 25, 1720, son of Miguel Dundeur, who never came to America. Jacob Dundor made the voyage to America in 1741, sailing on the ship "Friendship." He located in Bern township, Berks Co., Pa., where he died May 20, 1789, leaving a widow, Anna Maria (Brecht) Dundor, and children as follows: Maria C., Susannah, John, Michael, John Jacob and Catherine E.

John Jacob Dundor, son of Jacob, and great-grandfather of Dr. Adam B., married Marguerite Brown, by whom the following children were born: Jacob, John A., Christian, John (2) and Margaret.

Jacob Dundor, son of John J., died Dec. 12, 1828, leaving a son, Jacob, Jr.

Jacob Dundor, Jr., married Elizabeth Klopp, born Nov. 23, 1788, died Dec. 19, 1842. They were the parents of these children: Isaac, born March 10, 1809, and died Jan. 25, 1873; Jacob; Samuel K.; Catherine; Eliza; Caroline; Sarah, and Lydia. Jacob Dundor, Jr., and his wife are both interred in North Heidelberg cemetery. They were devoted members of the Reformed Church. Mr. Dundor was a Democrat. He was a prosperous farmer and owned valuable lands in North Heidelberg township, continuing to follow agricultural pursuits during his long and useful life.

Isaac Dundor, son of Jacob, Jr., and father of Dr. Adam B., was educated in the schools of his native township, and was reared to agricultural pursuits. He retired from active life and located in Reading several years before his death, which occurred Jan. 25, 1873. Mr. Dundor married Elizabeth Bucks, daughter of John Bucks, and she died in 1890, aged seventy-nine years, the mother of two children: Jonathan, born March 8, 1860, died April 22, 1866; and Adam B.

Adam B. Dundor received the rudiments of his education in the schools of North Heidelberg township, and later took an advanced course at Clement Academy, Chester county, still later entering Freedland Academy

(now Ursinus College), subsequently taking a classical course at Franklin and Marshall College, at Lancaster, graduating therefrom in 1862. While there he registered as medical student under the preceptorship of Dr. William Moore, of Womelsdorf, and remained with him two years, during which time he qualified to enter Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia. Taking one course here Dr. Dundor then took a special course at Long Island College Hospital, at Brooklyn, N. Y., and received the degree of M. D. in the summer of 1863. Later Dr. Dundor returned to Jefferson Medical College, and received the degree of M. D. there in the spring of 1864. The year following in regular course he received the degree of A. M. from Franklin and Marshall College. The Doctor located in Robesonia in 1864, remaining there until 1867, when he decided to make the city of Reading his field of practice, where he has continued to reside since. He first opened an office on Franklin street where he remained three years, and then removed to his present fine home, in which he maintained an office until he retired from practice in 1896. There never has been any doubt as to his ability or standing in the profession, as from the very beginning of his active career he has been successful in diagnosis and in treatment, and he has had the unbounded admiration and esteem of his fellow practitioners. From 1870 to 1873 he was physician to the Berks County Almshouse and Hospital, and from 1873 to 1877 prison physician. In 1833 he became a member of the board of health, from which on account of failing health he was compelled to resign in 1902, after serving nine years as its president. Dr. Dundor has made a careful study of hygiene and sanitation, and he has had the ideal physician's sense of duty in looking after the health of the people. As a member of the board of health his work has, indeed, been colossal, and more than that, it has been of such a nature as to bear good fruit. The nearly perfect system of vaccination was the result of his labors. As a member of the committee on Preventable Diseases and School Hygiene, he personally looked after this work, visited and thoroughly inspected every room in every school building in the city, together with the heating, ventilation and plumbing of the buildings, the furniture of the rooms, location of black-boards, in fact every thing in any way affecting the health of the pupils. In most complete tabulated form the records of his work were presented to the board, while his report suggesting needed changes, etc., was one of the most practical and sensible ever handed in by a city official anywhere. When he retired from the presidency of the Berks County Medical Society, Jan. 8, 1895, his address was on the subject of School Hygiene, and so complete was it in detail, so perfect in its entire conception, that it should be carefully studied by the building committees of school boards all over the country. This address is a plea for the health and happiness of future generations, an appeal to common sense, and is of so high a standard of excellence—the outcome of the scientific investigations of a conscientious scientist, looking for the greatest good of all the people, which in itself is the loftiest type of patriotic endeavor—that it is worthy the dignity of a State document to be printed and spread broadcast among all people. He has been a great friend of education and no man in the State of Pennsylvania has worked harder in the cause of the child and the student than has Dr. Adam B. Dundor.

Dr. Dundor was married in 1864 to Emma R. Kalbach, daughter of Isaac Kalbach, and five children were born of this union, two of whom died in infancy. The children surviving childhood were: Henry L., who died in 1876; Lizzie R., who died in 1876; and Eleanor R. In religious belief the family are members of the Reformed Church. The Doctor is a member of Chandler Lodge, No. 227, F. & A. M.; Excelsior Chapter, No. 237, R. A. M.; Reading Commandery, No. 12, K. T.; Rajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., and Friendship Lodge, K. P., of Reading. His profession connects him with the Berks County Medical Society, the Pennsylvania Medical Association, the American Medical Association, and the American Academy of

Medicine. He was also a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

Dr. Dundor is a very talented writer, and his works are well read and widely known. Among his works may be found: "A Plea for Old Standard Remedies"; "Sanitation and Sanitarians"; "Rheumatism; Epilepsy and Treatment by Bromide of Potash"; "Cocaine Intoxication and Its Dangers, Moral Pollution and Sanitation"; and the "Old and New Obstetrician."

HENRY VAN REED, first additional law judge of Berks county in 1869, was born Aug. 31, 1821, in Cumru (now Spring) township. His grandfather, John Van Reed, settled there about the time of the Revolution, and his father was born there in 1786. He was educated at Reading, Lititz, Lafayette College and Dickinson College, graduating from the last named institution in 1843. Upon returning home he selected the law as his profession, and pursued a regular course of legal study in the office of David F. Gordon, Esq., afterward president judge of this judicial district. On April 5, 1844, he was admitted to the Bar, and soon established a large and lucrative practice, which he continued for twenty years.

In 1851 he made a trip to California, visiting his brothers, who had gone thither some years previously. In April, 1869, the State Legislature authorized the qualified electors of Berks county to elect an additional law judge. At that time the Governor was a Republican in politics, and having been authorized to appoint a suitable person to act as such judge till one should be elected, he appointed Mr. Van Reed to this position on July 13, 1869. The appointment was given to him without any solicitation on his part. He occupied his seat on the Bench and discharged his duties in a superior manner till Dec. 6, 1869, when his successor was qualified. Subsequently, from Jan. 12, 1875, till Jan. 2, 1876, he again filled the same office by appointment from the Governor to supply a vacancy caused by the promotion of the then incumbent to the office of president judge. Judge Van Reed represented this district as one of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention which was held in 1872 and 1873.

During the progress of the Civil War, he was an ardent supporter of the national administration in every way, and his strong patriotic feelings impelled him to express himself in the most positive manner in favor of prosecuting the war. When the State of Pennsylvania was threatened with an invasion by the Rebels, in September, 1862, he enlisted with a large number of the most prominent men of Reading, in Company G, of the 2d Regiment of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanded by Captain F. S. Bickley. This company was marched to and beyond the State line and performed military service for eleven days when it was discharged. During the excitement throughout the State, owing to the battle of Gettysburg, in the beginning of July, 1863, he enlisted again in Company C, 42nd Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia, and acted as a sergeant. This regiment was composed entirely of Berks county companies. It was under the command of Col. Charles H. Hunter and continued in service from July 6th to August 12th.

Judge Van Reed died June 30, 1885, after an illness of several years. He married Catharine Gernant, daughter of George Gernant. She died Jan. 13, 1883. They had two children: George and Anna.

SAMUEL F. MILLER, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, was born at Richmond, Ky., in 1816. He was appointed by President Lincoln in 1862, and came to be an authority on constitutional law next to Marshall. His father was born at Reading, Pa., and had removed to Kentucky shortly before 1816, where he engaged in farming.

GEORGE DE BENNEVILLE KEIM, a prominent merchant, politician and official of Philadelphia, was born at Reading, Berks Co., Pa., Jan. 18, 1841, a son of John May and Harriet (de Benneville) Keim.

John May Keim was a prominent hardware merchant at Reading for many years. He married Harriet de Benneville, and they had six children, namely: Ellen, who married John Wickersham; Mary, who married Isaac Lathrop; Esther, who married Leonard Myers; George de Benneville; Anna, who married Amos Michener; and John May. [For other data see the publication entitled "Keim and Allied Families" which was compiled by de B. Randolph Keim.]

After receiving a thorough education at Reading and at "China Hall," in Bucks county, Mr. Keim engaged in a general hardware business at Reading until 1862, when he went to Philadelphia and entered the hardware store of Rufus Smith, on Commerce street, east of Fourth. After continuing with him for seven years he started in the saddlery hardware business for himself, at Third and Race streets, which he carried on until 1873; then he organized the firm of Keim, Kennedy & Co., which did business successfully until 1876, when the name was changed to Geo. de B. Keim, Ltd., & Co. and so continued for nearly twenty years. In 1871 Mr. Keim became the owner of the Coleman Bolt Works, and operated the plant for a number of years. He was also identified for some years with the Union Banking Company, as a director, and with the Citizens' Bank as president.

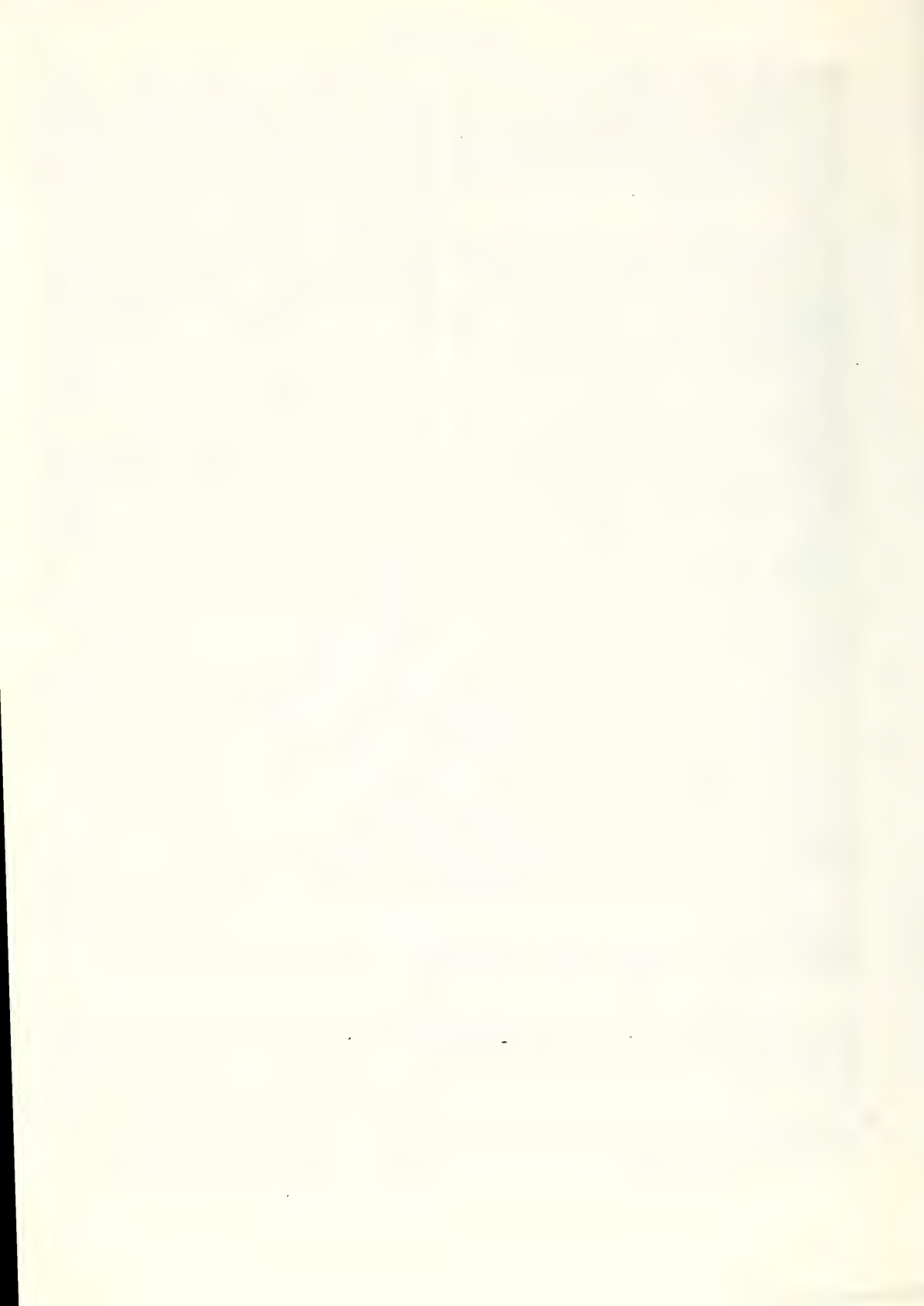
Immediately after locating in Philadelphia Mr. Keim identified himself with the Republican organization in that city and for thirty years took an active part in local politics. In 1880 he was chosen one of the Presidential electors for Pennsylvania, and he cast his vote for James A. Garfield. In 1882 he was placed on the Republican ticket for sheriff and was elected, notwithstanding opposition led by the powerful combination of the "committee of 100," which had been organized for the reform of local politics. He served the regular term of three years, from 1883 to 1886. In 1887 he was nominated on the Independent ticket for mayor, against Edwin H. Fidler on the Republican ticket, and although his numerous friends throughout the city conducted a hard campaign in his behalf, he was defeated.

In 1873 Mr. Keim represented the United States as a commissioner to the World's Fair at Vienna. At its close he traveled for a year over many parts of Europe and brought home with him many rare and costly paintings and works of art. This collection he continued to add to, and by many persons his collection is considered the finest owned by a private individual in Pennsylvania. For many years he resided at No. 1122 Spruce street, and he had a summer home at Edgewater Park, N. J., occupying a charming site on the eastern bank of the Delaware river; he also owned a farm and "shooting-box" in Maryland. While enjoying sport at the latter place he contracted a heavy cold, which developed into pneumonia, and he died after a short illness, March 10, 1893. He had a large circle of friends who appreciated him very highly for his genial, frank and straightforward nature.

In 1830 Mr. Keim was married to Miss Sarah Childs, of Milestown, Pa., by whom he had six children: Harriet de Benneville, Mary L., Ellen W., Walter M., John M. and Fanny Granville. In 1883, Mr. Keim was married (second) to Miss Elizabeth Archer Thomas, daughter of Joseph Tuley and Belinda Jane (Mitchell) Thomas, the former of whom was a distinguished lawyer of Philadelphia. They had two children: George de Benneville and Elizabeth Thomas.

JOHN W. GILBERT, of the firm of Heffner, Gilbert & Croll, leading clothiers and men's furnishers at Reading, Pa., was born Sept. 5, 1856, near Gilbertsville, New Hanover township, Montgomery Co., Pa., son of Elias Y. and Rebecca (Wartman) Gilbert, and grandson of John and Sarah (Yerger) Gilbert.

John Gilbert was born near Gilbertsville, Pa., a little borough named in honor of the early residents of that name, and he and his wife were the parents of two children, Elias Y. and a daughter who died in infancy. After Mrs. Gilbert's death, John Gilbert married (second) Esther Bickel. By this union there were children as fol-



lows: Jesse, Lydia, Henry, John, Milton, Emma, Percival and Augustus. In religious belief the grandparents were members of the Lutheran Church. He was a blacksmith by trade, and this occupation he followed for many years, dying aged sixty years.

Elias Y. Gilbert was born on the old Gilbert homestead near Gilbertsville. He received a good common school education, and during his vacations worked in his father's blacksmith shop, learning the trade. This he followed for a short time, and then engaged in the hotel business, first in Berks county, and later, after a short time spent in the butcher business, returned thereto, continuing in that occupation for about forty years, sixteen years of this time being in Pottstown. He died Dec. 1, 1898, and his wife followed him to the grave April 3, 1901. The children born to this union were: Mahlon W., born Aug. 16, 1850, in New Hanover, Montgomery county, is deceased; Elizabeth W., born Dec. 21, 1853, in New Hanover, died unmarried; Sarah A. W., born Oct. 18, 1854, in New Hanover, married C. W. B. Todd, Feb. 21, 1901; John W., born Sept. 5, 1856; Ellen W., born Sept. 11, 1859, in Boyertown, Berks county, married Nevin Gery, now of Philadelphia; Elias H., born Feb. 10, 1861, at Colebrookdale; Emma W., born Oct. 29, 1865, in Colebrookdale, Berks county, married W. M. Stauffer, and they reside in Lancaster county; Howard W., born Sept. 27, 1869, at that place, married Anna Ratz, and they live in Pottstown; and Eli married a Miss Ida Moll, of Alburtis, Lehigh county.

John W. Gilbert attended public school in Berks and Montgomery counties and Perkiomen Seminary. At the age of nine years he engaged as a tender in a brick yard, and this he followed during the summer months for three seasons. When twelve years of age he engaged at clerking in a general store at Forgedale and at Landis Store. He then clerked in his father's hotel for four years, during this time attending the Seminary. Later he taught school for two years, afterward engaging in the butchering business at East Greenville and Alburtis, still later going to Philadelphia, where he was employed eleven years by W. L. Graver as traveling salesman. In 1890 Mr. Gilbert came to Reading. He was appointed steward at the Berks County Almshouse, where he remained about five years, and at the end of this time engaged in the men's furnishing goods business on Fifth street. In 1897 the firm of Heffner, Gilbert & Croll was established, commencing operations at No. 528 Penna street, which store they conducted until 1904, when, on account of their steadily increasing business and lack of room they removed to their present fine store, formerly the J. C. Ulig stand, and here carry one of the finest stocks of men's furnishings and clothing in Pennsylvania. They also have a custom tailoring department, where the finest domestic and imported suitings are constantly kept on hand. A corps of cutters and first-class tailors are kept busy turning out some of the finest clothing in this section. The company employs ten clerks, and the building, which is 34 x 230 feet, is equipped with all modern improvements and appliances.

Mr. Gilbert was married in 1879 to Miss Amanda Salade, daughter of Abraham Salade, and two children were born to this union: Bertha and Helen, both of whom reside with their parents. In his political belief Mr. Gilbert is a Democrat. He is a member of Vaux Lodge, No. 406 F. & A. M., and of the K. G. E.

E. RALPH ADAMS, who at the time of his death was superintendent of the Philadelphia & Reading Telegraph Company, was born Nov. 5, 1850, at Robesonia, Berks Co., Pa., son of Reuben and Magdalena (Jones) Adams.

Reuben Adams was born also in Berks county. He carried on a blacksmith and machine business at Robesonia, where he died in November, 1895, aged seventy-five years. His widow died in June, 1907. They had six children, namely: Richard, of Missouri; Rufus, who died at Denver, Colo.; E. Ralph; Emma, deceased who married Samuel Kurtz; John; and Valeria, wife of George Fisher.

E. Ralph Adams was a pupil in the public schools until the age of fourteen years, when he took charge of the telegraph service at Robesonia, for the Philadelphia &

Reading Railway. This was in 1862, and he continued to be in the employ of this corporation until his death, with the exception of 1871 to 1874, when he was with the Western Union Telegraph Company, at Sedalia, Mo. After his return to the former company he was made manager of the Sixth street office at Reading, in 1875 becoming chief operator, and in 1886 he was sent to the Philadelphia office of the company as manager. Nine months later he was promoted to be superintendent of the whole service, and this responsible position, gained entirely through his own merit, he held up to the time of his death, which occurred March 3, 1895. He was a member of Lodge No. 62, F. & A. M.; Excelsior Chapter; Reading Commandery, K. T.; and Philadelphia Consistory. He belonged also to Mt. Penn Council, Royal Arcanum, and to the Philadelphia & Reading Relief Telegraphic Association.

In 1871 Mr. Adams was married to Loretta Loag, a daughter of William R. and Eliza (Strong) Loag. They settled at what is now known as Loag's Corner, Chester county, where they engaged in farming. She is the youngest of their children, the others being: Margaret, deceased, wife of Michael P. Boyer, a prominent attorney at Reading; John, deceased, who was proprietor of a hotel at Scranton, Pa.; Emma, widow of James Thompson, of Hillsboro, Md.; James, deceased, a merchant in Philadelphia; Mary and Esther, both deceased; George, deceased a dentist at Fort Wayne, Ind.; Sarah, wife of Theodore J. Bell, of Chester, Pa.; Frances, also of Chester.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams had two children, viz.: Fred B., who is supervisor of the Shamokin Division of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company, and who married Lue G. Felix; and Florence L., wife of R. Ray Helms, representative for the Equitable Life Assurance Society, at Reading, Pennsylvania.

CLYMER FAMILY. In tracing this family, the first of whom we know are Christopher Clymer and his wife, Catherine, who lived in Bristol, England. They had two children, Richard and William, who came to America about the year 1705. Both married, but only Richard left issue.

Richard Clymer and his wife, Elizabeth, had five children. Three of them died in infancy. Two sons, Christopher and William, both married and both left descendants, Christopher's son George having been one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

William Clymer, second son of Richard, married Anne Judith Roberdeau and left but one child. This was Daniel Cunningham Clymer, who was brought up by his uncle, General Roberdeau, Daniel's father having died when Daniel was quite young. Daniel Cunningham Clymer married Mary Weidner and they had three children: Ann, who died unmarried; William, who married Susan Richtmyer and had eight children, all of whom died childless; and Edward Tilghman.

Edward Tilghman Clymer, son of Daniel C., married Maria Catherine Hiester, and they were the parents of seven children, as follows: Daniel Roberdeau, born March 31, 1819; William Hiester, born Oct. 9, 1820; Edward Myers, born July 16, 1822; Weidner, born May 12, 1824; Mary Hiester, born July 19, 1825; Hiester, born Nov. 3, 1827; and George Edward, born Jan. 8, 1830.

DANIEL ROBERDEAU CLYMER, eldest son of Edward Tilghman Clymer and Maria Catherine Hiester, was born at the Clymer homestead in Caernarvon township, Berks Co., Pa., March 31, 1819. After receiving his education at Lititz, Lancaster county, he engaged in the mercantile business in Reading, Pa., which he pursued until 1852. In 1853-54 he was mayor of Reading, and some years later held a position with the East Pennsylvania Railroad Company, which he resigned in 1869, after which time he was not in business. He was also a lawyer, having been admitted to the Bar Aug. 20, 1857, but was never engaged in the active practice of the law. He married at Mercersburg March 31, 1846, Delia Pierson, daughter of Silas and Sarah Pierson, of Morristown, N. J. Mrs. Clymer was born Jan. 8, 1824, and died June 14, 1861. They had five children: Maria Hiester, born June 2, 1847; Sarah



Wm H. Clymers

Anna Moore, born June 24, 1849; Delia Pierson, born May 28, 1851; Daniel Roberdeau, Jr., born Nov. 6, 1851; and Hiester George, born Oct. 21, 1856.

Mr. Clymer was well known over the whole State and highly esteemed by a large circle of friends. He was a devout member of the Episcopal Church, and was looked upon as a faithful and upright Christian gentleman. His death occurred after a short illness at his residence in Reading, Pa., May 3, 1889.

WILLIAM HIESTER CLYMER, second son of Edward Tilghman Clymer and Maria Catherine Hiester, was born at the Clymer homestead in Caernarvon township, near Morgantown, Berks county, Pa., Oct. 9, 1820. His father dying while the children were all small, the subject of this sketch was placed in the charge of his uncle, William Hiester, of New Holland, Lancaster county, where he was in his uncle William's store for a short time, and subsequently sent to Lititz to school. He afterward came to Reading and he and his brother, Daniel R. Clymer, opened a dry-goods store at No. 518 Penn street. Later they moved their store to the building on the southwest corner of Fifth and Penn streets, which property they bought. Some years after William Clymer sold out his interest in the store to his brother Daniel, and in 1846 he and his brother Edward M. Clymer purchased the charcoal furnace at Mt. Laurel, Berks county, where he—William H. Clymer—resided until 1882, with the exception of about two years, from 1864 to 1866, when he lived in Reading. In 1860 he and his brother purchased the old Oley Charcoal Furnace near Friedensburg, one of the oldest charcoal furnaces in the United States, and commenced mining iron ore extensively. The Temple Furnace, a large and perfectly equipped anthracite furnace situated at Temple, five miles north of Reading, was built by William H. Clymer & Co., and operated by them until 1870, when the Temple Iron Company was organized with William H. Clymer as its president. About 1880 the Clymer brothers had the Mt. Laurel Furnace changed from a charcoal to an anthracite furnace, and a railroad, one and a half miles in length, was built from the East Pennsylvania railroad at Temple to the furnace. After these improvements were made the brothers organized the Clymer Iron Company, a corporation which included in its operations the Mt. Laurel Furnace, Oley Furnace, extensive limestone quarries at Bowser's Station, iron ore mines near Pricetown, and a number of mines along the East Pennsylvania railroad. This corporation, of which William H. Clymer was president, was entirely independent of the Temple Iron Company, of which he was also the president. About a year before his death Mr. Clymer resigned the presidency of the Clymer Iron Company on account of ill health and was succeeded by his brother, Hiester Clymer. He, however, retained the presidency of the First National Bank of Reading, which he held from 1876 until his death, and the presidency of the Temple Iron Company. He removed with his family to Reading, Pa., in September, 1882, and died there July 26, 1883. He had a large acquaintance and was greatly respected for his sterling character; was a man of excellent judgment, and his advice was frequently sought upon many important matters. He was brought up an Episcopalian and was a member of Christ Church, Reading, at the time of his death.

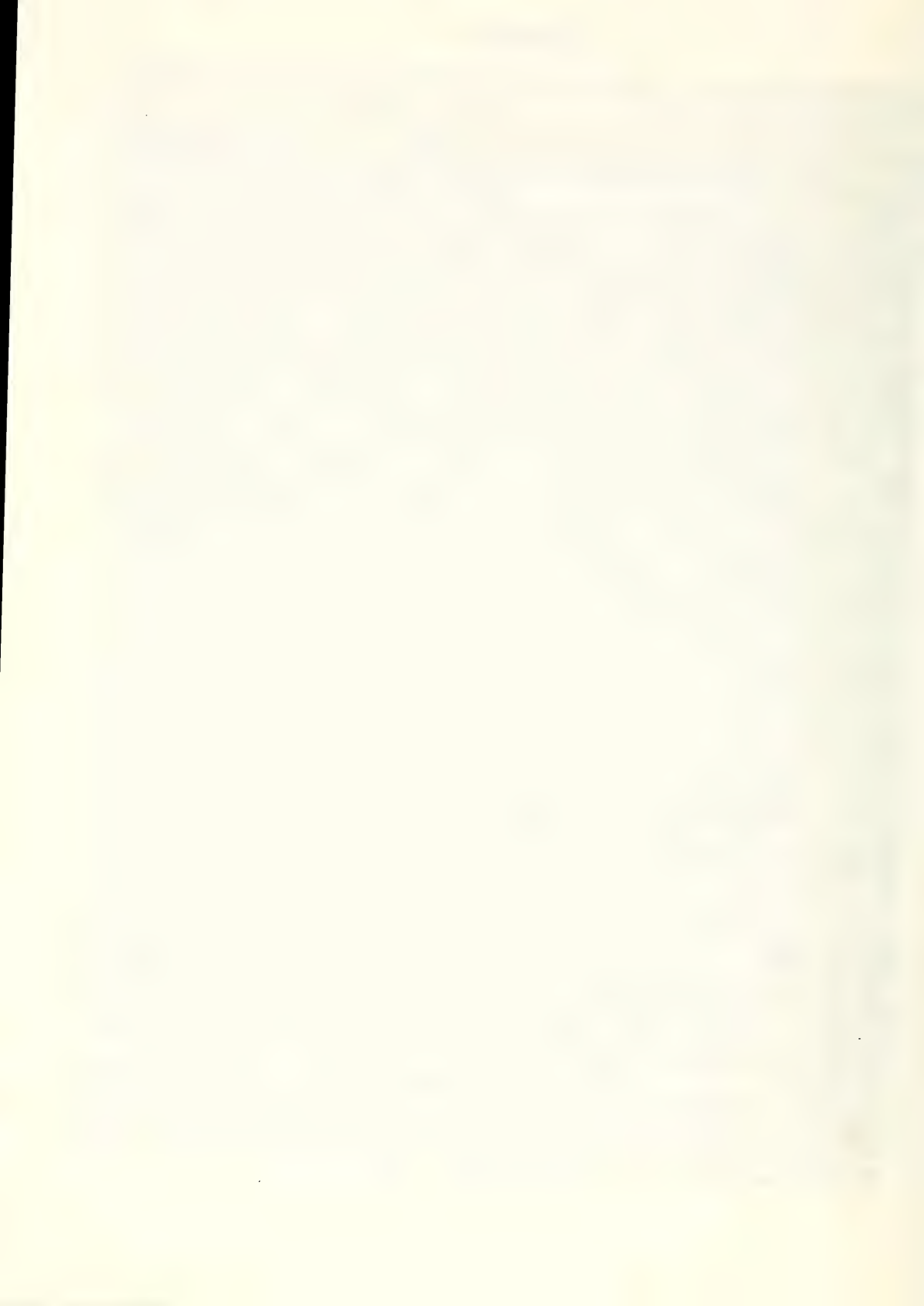
On June 12, 1855, Mr. Clymer married Valeria, eldest daughter of Levi B. Smith. She was born March 14, 1828, and died Aug. 17, 1901. Their family consisted of six children: Emily Smith, born July 16, 1856; Edward Tilghman, born Aug. 8, 1857; William Hiester, born March 21, 1860; Levi Smith, born April 2, 1863; Valeria Elizabeth, born April 29, 1865; and Frederick Hiester, born May 2, 1869.

EDWARD MYERS CLYMER, third son of Edward Tilghman Clymer and Maria Catherine Hiester, was born at the Clymer homestead in Caernarvon township, Berks Co., Pa., July 16, 1822. He went to the local schools in his early youth and afterward to the Abbeville Academy, in Lancaster county, and to the academy of Joshua Hoopes, at West Chester. He then selected the law as his profession, and

after pursuing his legal studies for a while under William Strong, Esq., he entered the Harvard Law School, from which he was graduated in 1845. Upon his return to Reading he was admitted to the Bar on Aug. 4, 1845. He then opened a law office and soon acquired a lucrative business, which he continued until 1857, at which time he became thoroughly interested in projecting the East Pennsylvania railroad, from Reading to Allentown. His efforts in this enterprise were entirely successful and he became the first president of the company, and continued in this office until the road was leased to the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company. In 1874 he was chosen president of the Coal Company belonging to the New York, Lake Erie & Western Railroad Company, which it owned and operated in Pennsylvania, and he held this position until his death, which occurred in New York City, May 25, 1883. He was popular in social and business circles and united to a more than common business sagacity an abundance of well-directed energy, a quality which received marked development in building the East Pennsylvania railroad, and the proposed continuation of a system of underground railway under Broadway, New York. He was married, Jan. 27, 1864, to Ella Maria Dietz, daughter of William H. Dietz, of New York City. They had but one child, a son, Edward Myers Clymer, born May 6, 1869, who survived him, as did also his widow.

MARY HIESTER CLYMER, only daughter of Edward Tilghman and Maria Catherine Hiester, was born at the Clymer homestead, Caernarvon township, Berks Co., Pa., July 19, 1825. She was married Aug. 10, 1852, in Christ Church, Reading, Pa., by the Rev. Milton Lightner, rector, to her cousin, William Bingham Clymer, the eldest son of Henry Clymer and grandson of George Clymer, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Clymer was born at the homestead, near Trenton, Bucks Co., Pa., his mother having been Mary Willing. He received a liberal education, graduating with credit at Princeton College, and studied law but never practised. When quite young he assumed the management of the Bingham estate. In 1842 he was appointed agent for the northern counties of Pennsylvania, and in 1845 established the general office of the estate at Wellsboro. His management of the large property was highly successful, so that in 1867 he was appointed a trustee. He ever carefully considered the rights and interests of all, and enjoyed the confidence of the trustees, while his courtesy, kindness and perfect integrity commanded the respect of the tenants and others on the estate. Mr. and Mrs. Clymer resided for a time at Wellsboro, Tioga Co., Pa., where all their children were born with the exception of the third, who was born in Philadelphia. The children were all baptized by Rev. Mr. Marple, rector of Christ Church, Wellsboro. In July, 1869, they sailed for Europe, taking all their children for the advantages of education; and while abroad, on the 28th of May, 1873, Mr. Clymer died of apoplexy in Florence, Italy. The family then returned to Philadelphia in the autumn. Mr. Clymer's remains were sent home and are interred in Charles Evans cemetery, near Reading, Pa. In November, 1878, Mrs. Clymer and her children left America with the intention of settling on the Continent, but she and two of her children, Richard and Maria, were drowned in the English Channel before they reached their destination, the vessel in which they took passage having been lost Nov. 26, 1878. The following children were born to Mary Hiester Clymer and William Bingham Clymer: Henry, born June 10, 1853; Mary, Dec. 13, 1854; Ellen S., Dec. 9, 1856; Richard Willing, April 10, 1858; Maria Hiester, Feb. 11, 1862; and Rose Nicolls, Sept. 19, 1865.

HIESTER CLYMER, fifth son of Edward Tilghman Clymer and Maria Catherine Hiester, was born at the Clymer homestead, Caernarvon township, Berks Co., Pa., Nov. 3, 1827. He received a liberal education, graduating from the College of New Jersey in 1847, and taking up the study of law was admitted to the Bar of Berks county, April 6, 1849, after which he practised in



Reading and Pottsville. He married April 3, 1856, Elizabeth M. Brooke, daughter of Matthew Brooke, of Birdsboro, Pa. They resided in Reading, where their two children were born and died, and where Mrs. Clymer died Oct. 9, 1870. He was a delegate to the Democratic Convention at Charleston, in 1860, and in the same year was one of the Revenue commissioners; served as State senator from 1860 to 1866; became the Democratic candidate for governor in the latter year, but was defeated by Governor Geary. In 1870 he was appointed by the governor a member of the Board of Public Charities, then just organized. In 1873 he was elected a representative to the XLIII Congress from Berks county, as a Democrat; and served on the committee on the Revision of the Laws, on Public Lands and on the Library. He was re-elected, to the XLIV Congress, and was placed on the committee on Expenditures of the War Department, and the Joint Standing Committee on the Library; also re-elected to Congress in 1876 and 1878. In 1880 Mr. Clymer was succeeded in Congress from the Berks District by the Hon. Daniel Ermentrout, and from that time until his death resided in Reading. His discussion with State Senator A. K. McClure, in February, 1861, in the State Senate, on the repeal of the tonnage tax on the traffic of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, brought him prominently before the public. The crowning act of his Congressional life was his presentation to Congress of the special committee report touching the rascalities of William W. Belknap, President Grant's Secretary of War, which created a great sensation throughout the land. His career in the Senate of Pennsylvania was distinguished for dignity and courtesy of demeanor, force and eloquence in debate, and steadfast devotion to the best interests of the Commonwealth. He was interested in the iron business, and at the time of his death was president of the Clymer Iron Company.

Mr. Clymer married April 26, 1882, Mrs. J. B. Clemens (nee Von Schrader), of St. Louis, Missouri.

Mr. Clymer died June 12, 1881, at which time he was vice-president of the Union Trust Company, Philadelphia; president of the Clymer Iron Company, which operated the Mt. Laurel and Oley Furnaces; a director of the Reading Fire Insurance and Trust Company from the time of its organization, and a trustee of the Charles Evans Cemetery.

Hiester Clymer and Elizabeth M. Brooke had two children: Elizabeth M., born Jan. 20, 1857; and Edward Brooke, born March 18, 1859.

GEORGE EDWARD CLYMER, youngest child of Edward Tilghman Clymer and Maria Catherine Hiester, was born at the Clymer homestead, in Caernarvon township, Berks Co., Pa., Jan. 8, 1830. He was sent to the Reading Academy and from there to Princeton College, from which institution he graduated in 1849. He then became associated with his brothers, William, Edward and Hiester, in the iron business in eastern Pennsylvania, owning the Mt. Laurel and Oley Furnaces and other property connected with the iron business. In 1858 he went to Mexico and joined a party who surveyed the route for a railroad from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico. In the summer of 1861 Mr. Clymer raised a company of cavalry which became attached to the 6th Pennsylvania Regiment, Col. R. H. Rush, of which Mr. Clymer was made major in March, 1862. During 1863-68 he was occupied in mining in Nevada and Chihuahua, Mexico. In 1870 Mr. Clymer severed his connection with his brothers in the iron business and removed to Cincinnati, where he became interested in the Swift Iron & Steel Works of Newport, Ky., of which his father-in-law was president. Mr. Clymer was elected vice-president in 1874 and removed with his family to Newport. In 1884 he returned to Reading and again became interested in the iron business, and after the death of his brother Hiester bought the Mt. Laurel Furnace property and operated the furnace until two years before his death, when he retired from active business and settled in Reading.

Major Clymer married June 29, 1868, Alice Cary Swift, daughter of Alexander Swift, of Cincinnati. She died in

Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 14, 1873, leaving two children. Mr. Clymer died in Reading July 7, 1895. He was the worshipful master of Lodge No. 62, F. & A. M., during the years 1855 and 1856, and was also a member of the Sons of the Revolution and of the Loyal Legion. The children of George Edward Clymer and Alice Cary Swift were as follows: Edwin Swift, born June 16, 1871; and George Alexander, born July 25, 1872.

LEWIS CRATER, Secretary and Treasurer of the Reading Steam Heat and Power Company, and Secretary and Treasurer of the Warren County Traction Company, is one of the representative citizens of Reading, and he is descended from one of those sturdy emigrants from the Palatinate, who sought religious freedom in the New World.

The name Crater was originally "Greter," as is evidenced in the original oath of allegiance to the King of Great Britain, signed by the emigrant ancestor when he landed at Philadelphia. This paper is on file in Harrisburg. The different branches of the family have adopted various spellings—Greder, Grader, Grater, Krater and Crater. The change from "G" to "C" was originally through an accident. On May 28, 1792, John Grater bought property of George Heelner, and the papers were made out by one Thomas Richards in the name of John Craitier. The error was not discovered until about 1800, when the property was sold, and in order to save trouble, the new papers were signed "John Crater." The family records show the great majority of its members to have been tillers of the soil, and they have been law-abiding, hard-working, honest, upright and strictly conscientious.

Religious persecution in Germany broke out with renewed frenzy in 1732, and about 30,000 Protestants were driven from the country in the middle of winter. Among these fugitives were (1) Jacob Greter and his family. From Colonial Records, Vol. III, p. 515, it is found that Jacob Greter was one of 291 "Palatines" arriving at Philadelphia, Pa., in "the ship Samuel of London, Hugh Percy, master, from Rotterdam, but last from Deal, on the 17th day of August, 1733." By occupation he was a weaver, but after coming to Pennsylvania, he purchased a tract of land along the Perkiomen river, at or near what is known as Grater's Ford, and there he also carried on farming. That he was not among those who sold themselves for a term of years to pay for his passage, but was able at once to purchase land, goes to prove he was a man of some means. Later records show his wealth increasing, as in the census report of Perkiomen or Van Bebbers township, Montgomery county, June, 1756, there is this entry: "Jacob Kreter, weaver, owner of 220 acres of land." Again, in the history of Perkiomen township, that same year is found "Jacob Kreter, owner of 220 acres of farm land at Grater's Ford, also a saw and grist mill." Records in his own handwriting indicate more education than was common in those times. In his religious faith he was a follower of Menno Simons, and it is not clear whether he was a preacher at the time of his arrival in Pennsylvania, but from the earliest entry in the minute-book of the Skippack Church it is shown that he was one of the most active members, and the general opinion is that he was a bishop. His descendants for several generations clung to the Mennonite faith, but as the country grew and education became more general, the younger members of the family joined more progressive denominations, and adopted the dress and customs of the times. In the old family record of Jacob Greter the names of three of his children have been lost owing to a corner of the leaf being torn off, the date of birth however being left. One of these three was undoubtedly "Lewis." Jacob Greter's children were: Jacob, born May 25, 1729; Maria, April 18, 1731; Johannes, April 10, 1734; Elizabeth, Feb. 29, 1736; Paulus, July 8, 1738; Barbara, Sept. 21, 1740 (married Frederick Hubler); Christian, Jan. 30, 1743; ———, born July 17, 1745; ———, born June 8, 1750; ———, born May 2, 1753; and Michael, in 1758.

(11) Johannes Greter, son of Jacob, was born April



10, 1734. His children were: Maria, born Oct. 19, 1760; Jacob, Oct. 1, 1763 (died May 27, 1764); Johannes, July 13, 1765; Abraham, April 19, 1768; Cadarius, May 23, 1771; Ludwig, Jan. 5, 1775; Elizabeth, April 6, 1779 (married Henry Hallman).

(III) Johannes Crater (2), son of Johannes Greter, was born July 13, 1765. He married and became the father of a large family (all of whom adopted the spelling of the name, Crater), as follows: Abraham, born March 2, 1792; Jacob, Dec. 28, 1793 (died single); Philip, Jan. 21, 1796; John, Nov. 26, 1797; David, Feb. 15, 1809 (died in 1893); Catharine, Oct. 19, 1802 (married John Young); Elizabeth, Feb. 3, 1805 (died Aug. 27, 1805); Henry, March 22, 1808 (died in December, 1815); and Israel, Feb. 18, 1812 (died single).

(IV) Abraham Crater, son of Johannes Crater, was born March 2, 1792. He married a daughter of Rev. Henry Pennypacker, great-aunt of former Governor Pennypacker, of the State of Pennsylvania. To their marriage were born six children, namely: Ephraim, born May 1, 1814, is mentioned below; Elizabeth, born May 20, 1817, died Dec. 7, 1834; Margaret and Christianna, born Sept. 10, 1818, both died unmarried; Jacob, born July 1, 1820, moved to Indiana, and died Nov. 17, 1893; and John, born Feb. 22, 1822.

(V) Ephraim Crater, son of Abraham, was born May 1, 1814. His education was obtained in the district schools. He grew up on the farm, and made farming his life work. He married Dec. 18, 1836, Susan Longacre, and they became the parents of eight children: Henry L., born Oct. 7, 1837, died Oct. 17, 1872; Lavinia, born Aug. 21, 1839, married Joseph Lukens; Anna, born Sept. 10, 1841, married Jacob Nyman; Lewis, born Aug. 9, 1843; Catharine Elizabeth, born Jan. 3, 1845, married Josiah Nyman; Jacob L., born Feb. 10, 1847, lives in Pottstown; David L., born Nov. 28, 1850; and Abraham L., born Sept. 18, 1853, died Nov. 9, 1873. Ephraim Crater, the father, was a staunch old-line Whig in politics, but at the formation of the Republican party, joined its ranks, and ever afterward was one of its active workers. He was a strong Abolitionist, and was one of the workers in the old underground railway. His good wife died May 3, 1878, aged sixty-four years, eight months, fifteen days. They were believers in the Mennonite faith.

(VI) Lewis Crater, son of Ephraim, born Aug. 9, 1843, received a good substantial education in the common schools of Chester county. Reared in the atmosphere of patriotism, the outbreak of the Civil war afforded him an opportunity to show his loyalty, and on Sept. 10, 1861, he became a member of Company H, 50th P. V. I., and participated in thirty-three engagements besides a number of skirmishes. He was once slightly wounded, had his sword cut from his side, and he was promoted from sergeant to first lieutenant for gallant conduct in action, closing his service as adjutant of the regiment. He was honorably discharged July 31, 1865.

After the war, Mr. Crater returned to Pennsylvania, and entered Bryant and Stratton's Business College at Philadelphia. For some time he taught penmanship in the schools of Philadelphia, but failing health necessitated a change of employment. He moved to Reading, and accepted a position in Philip Albright's grocery, later becoming a clerk in the dry goods establishment of H. A. Hoff, where he remained one year. He then became an accountant in Earl's Banking House, and continued there until it closed its doors in 1867. His next position was as chief clerk and bookkeeper for William McIlvaine & Sons in the Reading Rolling Mill, until that concern suspended operations in 1897. Since that time Mr. Crater has been a public accountant, and is considered an expert in that line. In 1888 he was elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Reading Steam Heat and Power Company, and has since held that office. He was a member of the Mt. Penn Paper Box Company, Ltd., in which he held the office of secretary, until 1908, when the company dissolved.

Mr. Crater is a writer of considerable ability, especially on historical subjects, for which he has a decided fondness.

In 1867 when Col. Bates was gathering data for the history of the troops of the State of Pennsylvania Mr. Crater furnished very much of the data relating to the 50th regiment, and some years after wrote and published a history of the 50th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He wrote the "History of the Crater Family" and the "History of St. Peter's M. E. Church."

In his fraternal relations, Mr. Crater is a member of the G. A. R., in which he has served as Post commander; a companion of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, Commandery of Pennsylvania; and a member of the Union Veteran Legion; the P. O. S. of A.; Vigilance Lodge, No. 194, I. O. O. F.; Veteran Castle, No. 481, K. G. E.; Society Army of the Potomac; Army of the Cumberland and Army of the Tennessee.

On Sept. 20, 1863, Mr. Crater wedded Miss Rosie C. Lowe, daughter of Peter Lowe, of Lebanon, Pa. Four children blessed this union: Emma May, born Jan. 9, 1867, m. Arthur E. Suter, of Zurich, Switzerland; Mary Minerva, born June 20, 1868; Annie Lulu, born Sept. 21, 1870, died Jan. 13, 1875; and Morton Murray, born Jan. 14, 1872.

THOMAS C. ZIMMERMAN, known all over Berks county as the talented editor of *The Reading Times*, is an enterprising and aggressive newspaper man, a clear-headed thinker, and an able and versatile writer. His best works, by which he has achieved distinction as a literary genius, have been his translations of German poetical masterpieces into English, and his rendering of English poems into the Pennsylvania German vernacular. In these two fields of work he is acknowledged by the best authorities to be without an equal. He is a poet by natural instinct, self-training being the means by which he has developed his native powers of expression. In presenting, through the columns of *The Reading Times*, his translations of English poems into Pennsylvania German, he has proved himself entitled to the highest regard of the class of worthy citizens of the Keystone State allied with him by race, in whose interests he has ever been an earnest and indefatigable worker.

The only school education Mr. Zimmerman ever enjoyed was the public school training he received during the years of his boyhood in Lebanon, Pa., where his birth occurred Jan. 23, 1838. Thus he never had the advantages of a classical education, and therefore all the more credit is due him for making such splendid use of his talents and opportunities. When thirteen years of age he was apprenticed to the printing trade, in the newspaper establishment of the *Lebanon Courier*. Upon the completion of his term of service he went to Philadelphia, and worked on the *Philadelphia Inquirer* a short time, until Jan. 8, 1856, when he entered the office of *The Berks and Schuylkill Journal*, in Reading, as a journeyman printer. In 1859 Mr. Zimmerman removed to Columbia, S. C., where he worked on the State laws, in the printing establishment of Dr. Robert Gibbs, who afterward became surgeon-general of the Confederate Army. In March, 1860, Mr. Zimmerman returned to Reading, as the anti-Northern sentiment had become so intense and virulent in South Carolina, the hotbed of secession, that his life was endangered, though he never openly opposed the course of the Secessionists while in that section. Upon his return to Reading he once more entered the employ of *The Berks and Schuylkill Journal*. Under its proprietor, Jacob Knabb, who became postmaster of Reading in May, 1860, he acted as clerk until the close of his superior's term of office, in July, 1863. During this period Mr. Zimmerman contributed some striking articles on postal reform to the *United States Mail* and other journals, which called out a correspondence with the then postmaster-general, Mr. Dennison, and some of the suggestions solicited were incorporated into that official's report.

When he finished his connection with the post-office he resumed his work in the *Journal* office, and in January, 1866, became co-proprietor and associate editor of the paper. Up to the year 1869 the firm bore the name of

J. Knabb & Co. in that year they also became the proprietors of the *Daily Times*, which, in 1871, was consolidated with the *Evening Dispatch*, under the title *The Times and Dispatch*. The Reading Times Publishing Company was organized in 1897, with Mr. Zimmerman as president and editor. This paper is one of the foremost journals in the State, and exerts the strongest kind of influence upon the moral and material development of its city, standing in high esteem with the political leaders in the State and at Washington. After more than half a century of journalistic work in Reading, he retired in October, 1908. In commemoration of the event a public subscription dinner was given him at the "Mineral Springs Hotel," in which upward of eighty leading citizens of Reading and adjoining cities participated.

Mr. Zimmerman was happy in the choice of his vocation and his home. He is a great lover of nature, and evidently believes, with a distinguished writer and fellow-pedestrian, that "the shining angels second and accompany the man who goes afoot, while all the dark spirits are ever looking out for a chance to ride." It was his habit for nearly forty years to take daily walks into the country, accompanied often only by his favorite dog, returning after a long excursion to his editorial desk by noon. Nothing turned him aside from the calling for which he was so eminently fitted. He had many flattering offers to engage in other fields of work, but in all cases these were declined. In his early manhood he had arranged to enter the law office of Hon. William Strong, and was also importuned to study for the ministry; his manifest destiny, however, made and kept him a journalist and writer of no mean ability. A brother editor comments on the journalistic abilities of Mr. Zimmerman in this language: "Mr. Zimmerman is a writer of force and ability. His writings are pure, easy and graceful. He is witty and humorous when occasion demands. In controversy he is gentlemanly at all times, and in argument he is fair and generous to his opponents. He has a genuine taste for literature, poetry and the fine arts, as many of his articles attest. He is one of the ablest writers in the old Commonwealth. Many of his articles show alike the eye of the artist, and the hand of the *litterateur*." One of these productions, that most widely published and copied, was a sketch of his visit to the Luray Caverns in Virginia; the merits of this inspiration of the moment were seen by the Hotel and Cave Company, who caused to be published upward of sixty thousand copies in illustrated pamphlet form for general circulation. The newspapers of Richmond, Va., copied this article, and the favor it met with called out the request that Mr. Zimmerman also write up the undeveloped resources of Alabama.

Mr. Zimmerman was united in marriage with Tamsie T. Kauffman of Reading, on June 11, 1867. Several years previous, in 1863, he enlisted in Company C, 42d Pa. V. I., but that company did not see active service. He was one of the founders of the Pennsylvania German Society, as well as one of the reorganizers, in 1898, of the Historical Society of Berks County. He has been for many years a member of the Board of Trustees of the Asylum for the Chronic Insane of Pennsylvania, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Reading Free Public Library. The degree of L. H. D. (Doctor of the Humanities) was conferred upon him by Muhlenberg College in 1904. He was also a member of the 27th National Conference of Charities and Corrections—office at Chicago; was also elected President of the Pennsylvania Association of Superintendents and Trustees of the Insane Asylums and Feeble-Minded of the State of Pennsylvania, 1905-09. In October, 1908, he was elected president of the Pennsylvania German Society.

Mr. Zimmerman has delivered quite a number of addresses on public occasions. He has been selected half a dozen times or more to speak before the Pennsylvania German Society: Once in the court-house at Lancaster, where the Society was organized; once in the court house at York, in response to the address of welcome, and in the evening of the same day at the banquet in the same city; once

at Lebanon; once at Harrisburg; and twice at Allentown, besides numerous occasions in Reading. He was subsequently selected by the Society as its special representative before the Chautauqua Assembly at Mt. Gretna, at which time he was elected one of the vice-presidents of that body in honor of the occasion. Within the last ten years Mr. Zimmerman has made upward of a hundred public addresses in various parts of the Commonwealth. He has frequently been mentioned as an available candidate for mayor of Reading, and twice his name was presented for the Congressional nomination from the Berks Legislative district, both of which honors he declined. He is a well-known figure in Reading, and has a host of devoted friends, who were won by his lofty, manly spirit, universal friendship of heart, and strong sense of right and duty; he is in particular favor with the Germans, in whose behalf he has written and spoken much.

Very early in life Mr. Zimmerman began to read poetry for the intellectual pleasure and profit which its elevated diction afforded him, and at the age of eighteen he had already made considerable progress in a predetermined systematic perusal of the whole line of English poets, or of as many of them as lay within his reach. The instinct of the translator asserted itself in marvelous maturity, when he began to make this one of the prominent features of *The Reading Times*. Hundreds of these matchless translations from the German classics into English appeared from time to time, the Saturday issue of the paper invariably containing a translation into English of some German poem, the original and translation appearing close together in parallel columns; in recognition of their merit he has been made the recipient of many presents, from friends at home and abroad. Worthy of mention among these are seventy-five volumes of German poetry from an admirer, residing in Berlin, Germany; his collection of tobacco pipes from Germany, England, Ireland, France, Denmark, Finland and Holland is palpable evidence of the widespread influence his work has had upon readers. Mr. Zimmerman has shown remarkable aptitude and poetic skill in all his translations, preserving with remarkable fidelity the exact measure of the original poems, and the rhythmical beat of each syllable with remarkable fidelity.

One of his most noted translations from the German, viz., The Prussian National Battle Hymn, appeared in the Berlin (Germany) *Times*, with a half-tone portrait of the author of the translation.

Some very original work has been done by Mr. Zimmerman in his translations of English classics into Pennsylvania German, that curious mixture of German dialects and English words which continues to be the chief spoken language of over half of the inhabitants of Berks county. His first attempt, Clement C. Moore's "Twas the Night before Christmas," caught the fancy of the press at once, and its favorable mention brought him congratulatory letters from such men as Prof. Haldeman, the eminent philologist of the University of Pennsylvania; Hon. Simon Cameron; Gen. Hartranft; P. F. Rothermel, painter of the "Battle of Gettysburg"; Prof. Porter of Lafayette College; Prof. Horne of Muhlenberg College, and other men of prominence in the literary world. Poems of Tom Hood, Oliver Goldsmith, Heine and Longfellow followed, and were received with hearty interest by the German people.

"Luther's Battle Hymn," a translation from the German into English, was a wonderful inspiration, and fairly ran up and down the country, as soon as it was given to the public through *The Reading Times*. In five weeks it brought eighteen columns of letters to the paper that published it, from eminent divines, professors, publicists, poets, historians and others in the higher walks of society. Notwithstanding there are some seventy or eighty translations of this magnificent poem, Mr. Zimmerman's effort has been characterized by Rev. Dr. Pick, the publisher of these translations, as "the newest and best that has been made." The new version was especially favored by being sung with enlarged choirs in different denominations of

town and city, and sermons here and there were delivered on the translation. Following is Mr. Zimmerman's translation of the famous hymn:

"A rock-bound fortress is our God,
A good defense and weapon,
He helps us out of every need
That doth us press or threaten.
The old, wicked foe,
With zeal now doth glow;
Much craft and great might
Prepare him for the fight.
On earth there is none like him.

"With our own strength there's nothing
done,
We're well nigh lost, dejected:
For us doth fight the proper One,
Whom God himself elected.
Dost ask for his name?
Christ Jesus—the same!
The Lord of Sabaoth,
The world no other hath;
This field must He be holding.

"And were the world with devils filled,
With wish to quite devour us,
We need not be so sore afraid,
Since they can not o'erpower us.
The Prince of this World,
In madness though whirled,
Can harm you not me;
Because adjudged is he.
A little word can fell him.

"This Word shall they now let remain,
No thanks therefor attending;
He is with us upon the plain,
His gifts and spirit lending.
Though th' body be taken,
Goods, child, wife and fame;
Go—life, wealth and kin!
They yet can nothing win:
For us remaineth the Kingdom."

Mr. Zimmerman's translation of Schiller's "The Song of the Bell" met with even more favor from the public; no less than twenty columns of newspaper matter made up of letters from all over the world came to the translator, and though twenty years have elapsed since its first appearance, Mr. Zimmerman receives continued inquiries for the translation from far and near. The *Philadelphia Ledger* says: "Mr. Zimmerman's translations have been highly commended by literary authorities at home and abroad. He has shown a special gift for making his English readers familiar with the spirit of the best German poets. Even those who are well at home in German will find a special interest in comparing the translation with the original, for he is sure to find that Mr. Zimmerman has not only seized the meaning of the author, but he has so put it into an English clothing as to show that the real bone and sinew of the original still lives in its new dress." Hon. Andrew D. White, U. S. Minister to Germany, in a letter to Mr. Zimmerman about his translations writes: "They have greatly interested me, as you seem to have caught their spirit and rendered them admirably. I am not sufficiently strong in literary criticism to compare them with other translations, but they seem to me to be thoroughly well done. I have also been especially interested in your translations into Pennsylvania German of some of the poems. Although not a philologist, the reading of them has also greatly interested me, and they, too, seem very spirited and in all respects interesting." Prof. Marion D. Larned, of the Department of Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania, says: "A masterful hand is visible in all the translations.

It is perhaps safe to say that Schiller's "Song of the Bell" is the most difficult lyrical poem in the German language to render into English with the corresponding meters. Your

version seems to me to excel all other English translations of the poem, both in spirit and in rhythm. Especially striking in point of movement is your happy use of the English participle in reproducing Schiller's feminine rhymes. Your version, however, while closely adhering to the form of the original, maintains at the same time dignity and clearness of expression, which translators often sacrifice to meet the demands of rhythm. Your poetic instinct has furnished you the key to this masterpiece of German song." *The New York World* says: "Mr. Zimmerman's rendering [Schiller's 'Song of the Bell'] is a triumph of the translator's art, and recalls the work of Bayard Taylor." *The New York Herald* says: "Mr. Zimmerman has placed his name in the category of famous litterateurs by a very creditable translation of Schiller's 'Song of the Bell.'"

The following ably written criticism is from the pen of J. B. Ker, who, while a resident of Scotland, once stood for Parliament: "To Col. T. C. Zimmerman—Sir: Having read and studied your noble translation of Schiller's 'Song of the Bell,' I have been forcibly impressed by the music of the language into which you have rendered the poem. This is a merit of capital importance in the translation of this poem. In estimating the value of translations of the great German poems, it is necessary to bear in mind the weight which the literary and critical consciousness of Germany attached to the ancient classical canons of poetry. There is no question here as to whether the ancients were right. The point for us is that their influence was loyally acknowledged as of high authority during the Augustan age of German literature. Proof of this can be found in Goethe as distinctly as it super-abundantly appears in Lessing's famous 'Dramatic Notes,' where the poetic dicta of Aristotle are treated with profound respect. In the study of Aristotle's work on the Poetic, nothing is perhaps more striking than his dictum that poetry is imitation, with the explanation or enlargement so aptly given by Pope in the words:

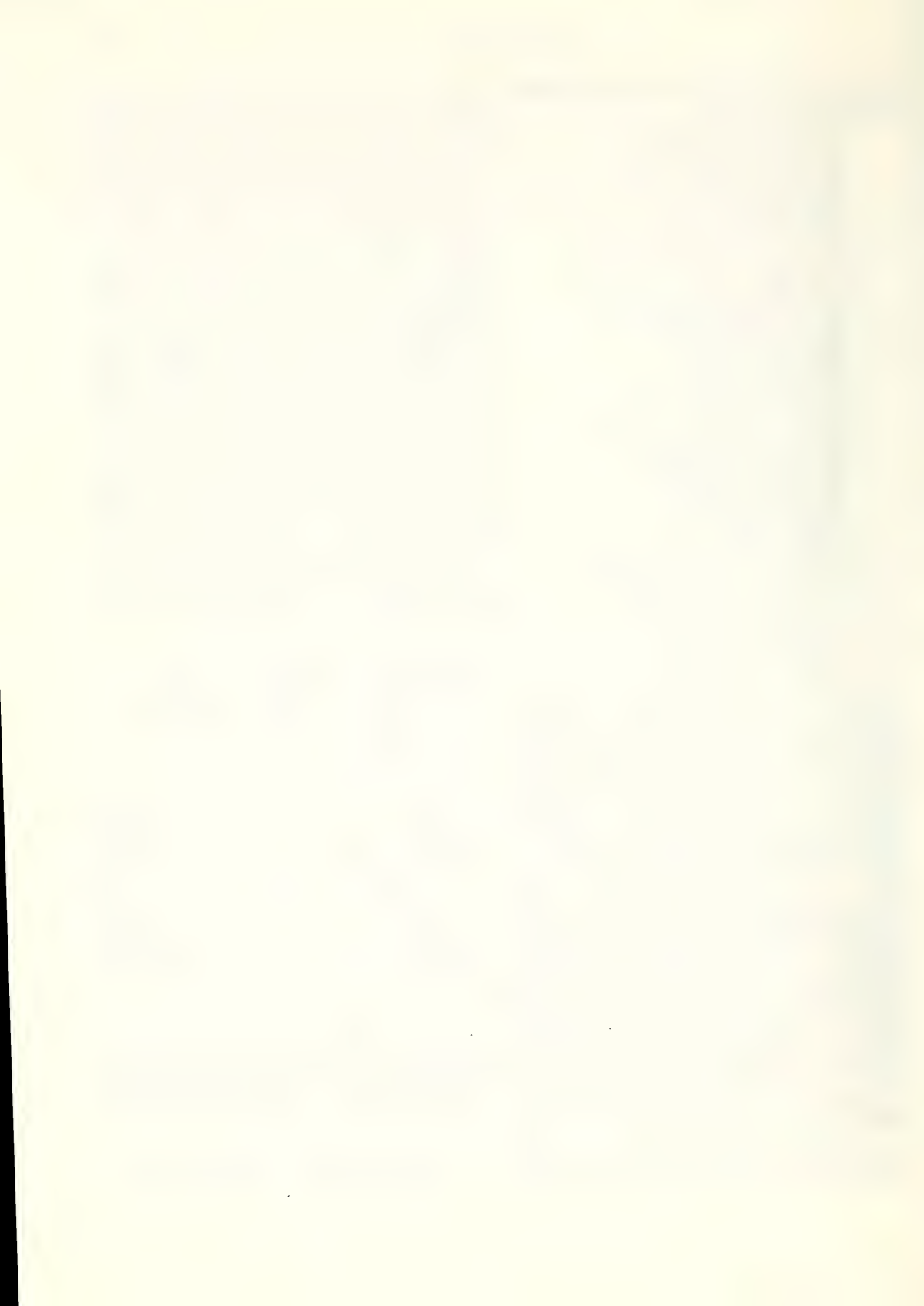
"'Tis not enough no harshness gives offense,
The sound must seem an echo to the sense.
Soft is the strain when zephyr gently blows,
And the smooth stream in smoother numbers flows;
But when loud surges lash the sounding shore,
The hoarse, rough waves should like the torrent roar;
When Ajax strives some rock's vast weight to throw,
The line, too, labors, and the words move slow,
Not so, when swift Camilla scours the main,
Flies o'er the unbending corn, or skims along the plain."

"Not knowing the German recognition of the law and acknowledging its realization in the works of the leading Teutonic poets, one of the crucial tests of a translation of a great German poet is, Does the language into which the original is rendered form an 'echo to the sense'? It seems to me that one of the strongest points in your translation of the 'Bell' is that the words which you have selected and gathered have sounds, which, like the music of a skillful musical composer, convey a signification independently of their literal meaning. Not to protract these remarks unduly, few words could more appropriately refer to the music of strong and distant bells than your rendering—

"That from the metal's unmixed founding
Clear and full may the bell be sounding."

"Very slight poetic capacity must admit the music of these words as eminently happy in the 'Song of the Bell.' The echo to the sense is also striking in the sound of the word-symbols in many places throughout the rendering where the poet describes the occurrences conceived in connection with the bell's imagined history. Speaking of the visions of love,

"O, that they would be never-ending,
These vernal days with lovelight blending."



the way in which the penult of the word 'ending' conveys the idea of finality, while the affix of the present participle yet prolongs the word as though loth to let it depart, is a beautiful and enviable realization of the Aristotelian rule, a prolongation of the words which expresses doubly a prolongation of desire. The four lines reading:

'Blind raging, like the thunder's crashing
It bursts its fractured bed of earth
As if from out hell's jaws fierce dashing,
It spewed its flaming rum forth,

have a vehement strength and a rough and even a painful and horrid sound which apply with singular propriety to the horrible images by which the poet presents the catastrophe to our quickened apprehensions. The beautiful lines.

'Joy to me now God hath given,' etc.,

in which the bell founder exults, avoiding as they do, the deeper vowel sounds and preserving as it were a series of high musical notes save where the gift descends from heaven to earth, when the vowel sounds fall from high to low, form a delightful resonance of the happy sentiment they embody. The general experience of translations is that they are more prosy than sonorous or musical. Few, however, if any, will deny the melody of your language in many places and its remarkable appropriateness in others, and those who have worked on similar translations can best judge how great is the success you have accomplished in this valuable contribution to Anglo-Saxon literature."

Mr. Zimmerman published a collection of his addresses, sketches of Out-Door Life, translations and original poems in two volumes, entitled "Olla Poivrida." The volumes, which were published in the fall of 1903, were received with great favor, almost the entire edition having been sold in a month's time, a number of the public libraries having become purchasers.

We present to our readers a few short selections from Mr. Zimmerman's translation of "The Song of the Bell":

"Firmly walled in earth and steady,
Stands the meld of well-burnt clay.
Quick, now, workmen, be ye ready!
Forth must come the bell today!
Hot from forehead's glow
Must the sweat-drops flow,
Should the master praise be given;
Yet the blessing comes from Heaven.

"The work prepared with so much ardor
May well an earnest word become;
When good discourse attends the labor,
Then flows employment briskly on,
Observe with care, then, what arises—
See what from feeble strength escapes;
The man so poor, each one despises,
Who ne'er foresees the form he shapes.
'Tis this that man so well adorneth,
For mind hath he to understand
That in his inner heart he feeleth
Whate'er he fashions with his hand.

* * * * *

"O sweetest hope! O tender longing!
The earliest love's first golden time!
The eye, it sees the heavens thronging
With rapt'rous sights and scenes sublime;
O, that they would be never-ending,
These vernal days with lovelight blending.

* * * * *

"Through the streets with fury flaring,
Stalks the fire with fiendish glaring,
Rushing as if the whirlwind sharing!
Like the blast from furnace flashing
Glows the air, and beams are crashing,
Pillars tumbling, windows creaking,
Mothers wandering, children shrieking,
Beasts are moaning,
Running, groaning,
'Neath the ruins; all are frightened,
Bright as day the night enlightened.

* * * * *

"From the steeple,
Sad and strong,
Th' bell is tolling
A fun'ral song.
Sad and slow its mournful strokes attending
Some poor wand'r'er tow'rds his last home wending.
Ah! the wife it is, the dear one;
Ah! it is the faithful mother,
Whom the Prince of Shades, unheeding,
From the husband's arms is leading,
From the group of children there,
Whom she blooming to him bare;
On whose breast saw, maid and boy,
Growing with maternal joy.
Ah! the household ties so tender
Sundered are forevermore;
Gone into the realm of shadows
She who ruled this household o'er.
Now her faithful reign is ended,
She will need to watch no more;
In the orphaned place there ruleth
A stranger, loveless evermore.

* * * * *

"And this henceforth its calling be,
Whereto the master set it free!
High o'er this nether world of ours,
Shall it, in heaven's azure tent,
Dwell where the pealing thunder lowers,
And border on the firmament.
It shall, too, be a voice from heaven,
Like yonder starry hosts, so clear,
Who in their course extol their Maker,
And onward lead the wreath-crowned year.
To earnest things and things eternal
Devoted be its metal tongue,
And, hourly, Time, with swift-winged pinions,
Will touch it as it flieeth on.
Its tongue to dest'ny 'twill be lending;
No heart itself, from pity free
Its swinging ever be attending
Life's changeful play, whate'er it be.
And as the sound is slowly dying
That strikes with such o'erpowering might,
So may it teach that naught abideth,
That all things earthly take their flight."

Following is Reading's Official Sesqui-Centennial Hymn, as written by Thomas C. Zimmerman, and sung on Tuesday evening, June 6, 1898, by a chorus of 600 voices, to an audience of 20,000 people, assembled on Penn's Common:

"All hail to Reading's name and fame!
And let the welkin ring
With song and shout and roundelay,
As we together sing.
And may our songs, with glad acclaim,
To heav'n, like incense rise,
While glowing hearts in tones proclaim
Her glory to the skies.

"Tis sev'n score years ago and ten
 Since this fair town has been;
 Its sweet young life must have exhaled
 A breath like rosy morn.
 So let us sing till yonder hills
 Send back the joyous song;
 Till echoing dales and rippling rills
 The gladsome sound prolong.

"Let others tread life's stately halls,
 Where princely pleasures flow;
 Give us our homes, like jewels set
 In evening's sunset glow.
 And may our hearts, in swelling pride,
 Forget not those of old—
 The men of Reading's pristine days—
 Whose hearts have long grown cold.

"Let all, therefore, with mingled voice,
 Repeat the glad refrain;
 Let civic pride, in flowing tide,
 Rejoice with might and main.
 And God, the Father of us all,
 With His protecting care,
 Will bless us while we praise in song
 Our city, bright and fair."

Mr. Zimmerman also wrote the Sesqui-Centennial of Berks, which was adopted by the Historical Society of Berks as the official hymn. Following is the translation:

Air:—"America."
 "Hail, beauteous Berks! to thee
 Let song and minstrelsy
 Their tribute pay!
 Let joy in rapture break
 Till echoing hills awake,
 And woodland summits shake,
 On this glad day.

"Our sires, long since at rest,
 With men/ries, sweet and blest,
 Were at thy birth.
 With axe and brawn and brain,
 They toiled, with might and main,
 A dear loved home to gain
 On this green earth.

"And now, with upturned eyes,
 Your children's gladsome cries
 Their homage bring.
 From all our mines and mills,
 From Manatawny's hills,
 And Ontelaunee's rills,
 Let praises ring.

"Then hail the natal day
 When Heaven's fav'ring ray
 Shone on thy face.
 Let joy, in civic pride,
 Gush forth, on every side,
 And music's swelling tide
 Add strength and grace.

"Our fathers' God! may we
 Be ever true to thee
 Through all our days.
 Thy Name be glorified,
 Our hearts be sanctified,
 As, with exultant pride,
 We sing thy praise."

Mr. Zimmerman was also the author of the memorial hymn sung at the dedication of the McKinley monument in the City Park, in the presence of one of the largest audiences ever assembled in Reading.

One of the proudest achievements of Mr. Zimmerman's journalistic career was the erection of a monu-

ment to Stephen C. Foster at his home in Pittsburg, which, according to the Pittsburg papers, had its real inception in an editorial prepared by Mr. Zimmerman for the Reading *Times*, after a visit to that city and finding no memorial to perpetuate the memory of the world's greatest writer of negro melodies. This editorial was republished in the Pittsburg *Press* and indorsed by that paper, which also started a fund to provide a suitable memorial and called on the public for popular subscriptions, the ultimate result being the statue which now adorns Highland Park, in that city. The following from the Pittsburg *Times*, in a personal notice of Mr. Zimmerman's visit to that Park several years ago, said: "Out at Highland Park yesterday passers-by noticed a handsome, military looking gentleman making a minute study of the Stephen C. Foster statue. Every feature of this artistic bit of sculpture, from Foster's splendid face to Uncle Ned and the broken string of his banjo, was examined with affectionate interest. The man was Col. Thomas C. Zimmerman, editor of the Reading (Pa.) *Times*, and the statue was the fruition of his fondest wish. Col. Zimmerman has been for many years one of the staunchest admirers of Foster's imperishable songs and melodies. Sixteen years ago while in Pittsburg visiting the late Major E. A. Montooth, he asked the latter to show him the monument to Foster, and was painfully surprised to discover that no such memorial existed. Shortly after his return to Reading he wrote an editorial for his paper, calling the attention of the world in general and Pittsburg in particular to the neglect of Foster's memory."

MILTON BRAYTON McKNIGHT, son of David McKnight and Elizabeth Hiester, his wife, was born in Reading, Sept. 30, 1855.

Paul McKnight, his great-grandfather, of Scottish ancestry, came to America in 1752, from the North of Ireland, and settled in Chester county.

Paul's son, John McKnight (born May 31, 1774—died March 9, 1855), came to Reading in 1808, and conducted a Branch of the Bank of Pennsylvania of Philadelphia, which Branch Bank was afterward incorporated as the National Union Bank of Reading.

David McKnight (born May 2, 1814—died Aug. 29, 1873), a son of John McKnight, assisted and succeeded his father in conducting the Reading Branch of the Bank of Pennsylvania, and upon the incorporation of the Union Bank of Reading (afterward the National Union Bank) became its first president, and held this office until his death.

On his mother's side, Elizabeth Beck Hiester (born May 5, 1817—died Oct. 11, 1897) was a daughter of Joseph Hiester of Reading (born Aug. 4, 1768—died April 16, 1830), and a granddaughter of Joseph Hiester (1710-1772), who came to America from Westphalia, Germany, in 1737.

M. Brayton McKnight attended the local public schools, graduating from the Reading high school in 1872, and entered Amherst College the same year, from which college he was graduated in 1876. He then read law in the office of his brother-in-law, Charles H. Schaeffer, Esq., of Reading, and was admitted to the Bar of Berks county in 1878. Going to Colorado in the fall of 1879, he was admitted to the Bar of that State and took a clerical position in the office of Hon. Robert S. Morrison, a prominent attorney of Georgetown, Colo. Returning to Reading the following year, he resumed the practice of law. In 1881 he assisted in the incorporation of the Mt. Penn Stove Works, a company just forming for the manufacture of cooking and heating appliances, and being elected secretary and treasurer of the new corporation, he relinquished his law practice and devoted his whole time to manufacturing. He retained the office of secretary and treasurer of the Mt. Penn Stove Works for twenty-five years, and in 1907 he was elected president of the company, which office he now holds. During this time this company has grown to be one of the prominent manufacturing and business enterprises of Reading.



Mr. McKnight was married in 1880 to Ida May Geise, who died in 1882, without any children. On March 31, 1898, he married Wilhelmina Hamilton Holmes (daughter of Robert Holmes, of Reading), who died on Nov. 3, 1901, leaving two daughters, Helen, born June 16, 1899, and Katharine, born May 23, 1901.

Mr. McKnight is identified with various business enterprises of Reading, is on the board of directors of the Mt. Penn Gravity Railroad, the Reading & Temple Railway, the Reading Hospital, the Charles Evans Cemetery Company and the Reading Sanitarium for the Treatment of Tuberculosis, and is a member of the Berks County Historical Society, the Pennsylvania-German Society and the Pennsylvania Forestry Association.

CHARLES H. SCHAEFFER, one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Reading, is well known in the financial circles of that city as president of the National Union Bank. Mr. Schaeffer was born in Columbus, Ohio, in the year 1840. His father and grandfather were clergymen, distinguished in the Lutheran Church, his father having been for many years professor in the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, and later having been the founder, first professor and president of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, where he remained until his death in 1879.

Charles H. Schaeffer received his collegiate education at Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, from which he graduated with honor in 1860, and thereafter he conducted a classical academy at Reading for several years. During this period he also read law in the office of the late Congressman Daniel Emmentrout. In 1863 he enlisted in the service of the United States and was at the front until his regiment disbanded in the fall of that year. On Aug. 9, 1864, he was admitted to the Bar and since that time has been in continuous practice, being concerned in much of the most important litigation that has been before the courts of Berks county, the Supreme court of Pennsylvania and the United States courts, and during his professional career has been attorney for many of the most important corporate interests of the community.

Mr. Schaeffer has been prominently identified with the Democratic party from the first, and in his earlier years was a prominent speaker and worker in his party, representing it in county, State and national conventions. In 1873 he served a term as a member of the city council, but was never a candidate for any other office. He long served the public as a member of the board of health until his resignation in 1902, nineteen years, during which time the most valuable improvements and reforms in the work of the board were inaugurated and established.

Mr. Schaeffer has always been prominently identified with the public interests and institutions of the city and county. In 1873 he drew the charter of the first passenger railway built in the city of Reading, organized the company, and has been connected with the city railway interests as attorney and director during all the subsequent developments of the system. Since 1869 he has been the counsel for the National Union Bank of Reading, one of the leading financial institutions of the city, became a director in 1874, and vice-president in 1898. Since March, 1900, Mr. Schaeffer has been president of this institution.

During all his legal and business career Mr. Schaeffer has at various times contributed articles to the educational and legal magazines, and other publications of the city, county and State, which gave him reputation as a writer, and in the years when the *Reading Eagle* was laying the foundations of its future prosperity his contributions to its columns were highly appreciated. In connection with his banking interests, Mr. Schaeffer is also a director of the Reading Trust Company, the Reading Gas Company, the Reading City Passenger Railway Company, and also of many other corporations. He is also president of the West Reading Water Company. He is an active member of the well-known Berks County Historical Society, while his war record entitles him to his connection with Keim Post, No. 76, G. A. R. Since 1860 Mr. Schaeffer

has been a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, in the vestry of which he served a number of years as elder, and to which his family also adhere.

In 1867 Charles H. Schaeffer and Amelia M. McKnight were united in marriage. Mrs. Schaeffer is a member of one of the old and prominent families of the county. Four sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Schaeffer, all of whom are engaged in business in Reading and Philadelphia, the youngest, E. Carroll, being a member of the Berks county Bar.

In every walk of life, indeed, Mr. Schaeffer has made an impress for good. Of profound legal mind, scholarly and liberal-minded, his influence has been felt not only in the material upbuilding of Reading, but in the development of the moral, religious and educational movements in the community in which he has for so long been so prominent a figure.

JACOB B. FRICKER. It is most consonant that in this work be incorporated a sketch of the career of this well-known and honored citizen and prominent business man of Reading, for not only is he a native of the city which is now his home, but he is also a representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of the county in which his entire life has been passed. Mr. Fricker was born in the old family homestead at No. 807 Penn street, Dec. 19, 1839, son of Jacob and Catherine (Allgaier) Fricker, both likewise natives of the old Keystone State.

Jacob Fricker was born in Huntingdon county, where he was reared and educated, and where he remained until he was about twenty-two years of age, when he came to Reading and secured a position as foreman and manager in the hat factory of Jacob Sauerbier. He retained this incumbency about twelve years, and then engaged in the same branch of enterprise on his own responsibility, forming a partnership with Harry Brown and establishing their factory at No. 807 Penn street, in 1855. On that site, 30 x 270 feet in dimensions, Mr. Fricker erected his dwelling, which is still standing, and in an excellent state of preservation. In the rear of this building the firm established their fur-hat manufactory, utilizing a log house. At the same time they established a wholesale and retail store at the corner of Fifth and Court streets, where Tragle Bros.' large cordage building now stands. Mr. Fricker continued to be actively identified with this business until his death. The business demanded considerable traveling on his part, as the custom in those days was for the manufacturers to go about from one locality to another, selling their products or exchanging them for new fur-pelts. On one of these trips he contracted a severe cold, the ultimate result of which was his death, in March, 1847. In 1828 Jacob Fricker married Catherine Allgaier, who survived him many years, continuing to reside in the old Penn street homestead for sixty years. She died in 1888. Five children were born to Jacob Fricker and wife: Peter H., who was engaged in the manufacture of fur hats in Reading, and who was a prominent member of the old Ringgold Band, died in 1860; Andrew J., a printer and box manufacturer, also identified with the Reading Lumber Company, and the representative of the Tenth ward in the city council, died in 1895; Sarah E. died in 1886; Jacob B.; George W., who was engaged in printing and manufacturing, died in 1902. As per family arrangement the estate was not settled until 1905, a period of fifty-eight years, when Jacob B., the sole survivor, became the owner of the old homestead.

Jacob B. Fricker was reared to manhood in his native town, and after completing the course of the Reading schools, he found employment as a clerk in a local mercantile establishment. He followed this vocation for a number of years, with different firms, and during the Civil war was employed as a clerk in the post-office, and later was clerk and teller in the First National and the Reading Savings Banks. In 1871 he became associated with the De Long Brothers, tanners and curriers, who for many years occupied the southeast corner of Ninth and Mulkenberg streets, and with them in 1875 he established a wholesale leather house in Philadelphia, and at this writing



C. W. Schaeffer

still remains a partner of this firm. In 1884 he formed a partnership with Lambert A. Rehr, and under the firm name of Rehr & Fricker, they engaged as contractors and builders. The firm is still in existence, with offices at No. 124 Cedar street, and they control a large and important business, having erected more than 1,000 houses in Reading. This fact in itself offers the most effective voucher for the correct business methods and technical ability of the firm, whose reputation has ever been of the highest, and whose splendid success has been richly deserved.

Mr. Fricker is a man of progressive spirit and has identified himself with various other enterprises which have contributed to the material advancement and prestige of his home city. He is one of the organizers, and remains an interested principal in the Reading Lumber Company. Mr. Fricker was a director in the Reading Hardware Company many years, but recently severed his connection with the company. For the past ten years he has been the manager and treasurer of the Reading Abattoir Company, which he organized and now has incorporated by the State of Pennsylvania. He is not only treasurer but also one of the largest stockholders. He is president and stockholder of the Crescent Brass Foundry Company, and takes a lively interest in the management of the same. In politics Mr. Fricker is a staunch supporter of the principles and policies of the Republican party, and his religious faith is that of the Reformed Church. He and his wife are prominent members of St. Paul's Reformed Church, with which he has been identified since its organization, and of whose choir he has been a member for thirty years, also taking an active part in the work of the Sunday-school. He has served on the building committee of six different churches of the Reformed denomination, those of St. Thomas, St. John, St. Andrew and Zion, on the first church buildings of St. Stephen and St. Mark, on the Sunday-school building of St. Paul's, and on the Seminary building of the Reformed Church of Lancaster, Pa., and in each instance he gave most valuable assistance by reason of his fine technical knowledge as a contractor and builder.

In 1868 Mr. Fricker married Miss Annie E. Getz, daughter of the late Peter D. Getz, an honored pioneer of Reading, and to this union have been born three daughters: Mary F. m. Thomas G. Mull, and has one daughter, Helen; Martha A.; and Annie F., the two last named remaining under the parental roof. Mr. and Mrs. Fricker were members of the Mozart Musical Union, being original members, and they continued interested in same as long as it was in existence. Mr. Fricker is a loyal and public-spirited citizen and has an abiding interest in all that concerns his native city, which is endeared to him by the gracious memories and associations of the past as well as of the present.

I. S. AND D. H. HUYETT, proprietors of the Standard Paper Box Manufacturing Company, which is located at Nos. 441 to 445 Pearl street, Reading, are well known in their community as honest, straight-forward business men. Their success is due to their push and energy, and to their native business ability, and they are considered representative citizens of their native city. They are sons of Amos and Henrietta (Smith) Huyett, the former of whom was for many years a prominent contractor and builder, and also operated a planing mill, doing much to advance the material growth of Reading. During the Civil war he was one of the first to enlist and he served throughout that struggle. He died in 1891, aged fifty-four years.

Amos Huyett was twice married. He married (first) Henrietta Smith, who died in 1870 at the age of thirty-three years. They were the parents of five children as follows: I. S. and D. H., who are mentioned below; Ella R., Lucy A. and Henrietta. Mr. Huyett married (second) Lydia Rick, who passed away in 1908, at the age of seventy. In religion the family were Lutherans. Fraternalty the father was a member of the I. O. O. F. and in politics was a Republican.

I. S. Huyett, junior member of the firm of the Standard Paper Box Manufacturing Company, was born in 1861. On May 12, 1887, he married Jennie L. Heller, daughter of

Anthony W. Heller, and one child was born to this union, Amos W., who is now attending school. Mr. Huyett is a member of Vigilance Lodge, I. O. O. F., and the B. P. O. Elks, Lodge No. 115. Like the rest of the family he is a member of the Lutheran Church.

D. H. Huyett, junior member of the firm, was born in 1862, and on March 4, 1898, he married Catharine Hull, daughter of Henry Hull. They are the parents of Daniel, Dorothy and Catharine. Mr. Huyett is prominent in fraternal circles, being connected with St. John's Lodge, F. & A. M., No. 435; Reading Chapter, R. A. M., No. 152; De Molay Commandery, No. 9, K. T.; Reading Lodge of Perfection; Rajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.; Williamsport Consistory; and Lodge No. 115, B. P. O. Elks, of Reading.

The Standard Paper Box Manufacturing Company was organized in 1895. They manufacture a high grade of paper boxes, cartons and candy boxes and supply shoe, millinery, candy and hardware concerns with their product. The plant, three stories in height and 60x100 feet in dimensions, is equipped with a one hundred horse-power boiler, and gives employment to an average of seventy hands. From a small beginning the business has grown rapidly and now controls a well defined trade throughout this section of the State.

ALPHEUS S. BEHNEY, a director of the Penn National Bank, of Reading, and one of the most substantial citizens of Womelsdorf, Berks county, was born Nov. 17, 1843, at Fredericksburg, Lebanon Co., Pa., son of Samuel and Sarah Jane (Bashore) Behney.

This family is one of the oldest in Pennsylvania, and the name has been variously spelled Beni, Baney, Behne and Behney. The founder of the family in the Lebanon Valley was Peter Beany, of Heidelberg township, who died in January, 1784, leaving a wife, Catherine, and children: George Peter, Jr., Jacob, Melchoir, Eva, Elizabeth, Christina, Barbara, Magdalena, John and Anna Elizabeth. It is also shown in the Pennsylvania Archives that in 1723 a family of Beni emigrated to this country and located in Lebanon county. Prior to 1750 the ancestor of this numerous family located near Fredericksburg, Lebanon county, where he took up about 1,000 acres of land, and there spent the rest of his life, dying at an advanced age. Up to the time of his death, Peter Beany (or Behney) wore no garb other than in Continental style. Several of his sons, including Melchoir, served in the Revolutionary war.

Melchoir Behney, son of the ancestor, and great-grandfather of Alpheus S., was born in Lebanon county, and spent his life there, being buried at Fredericksburg. He was a farmer by occupation, and one of the early horse dealers of this part of Pennsylvania, the first of the family to follow that line, in which so many of the name have become famous, in fact, one Jacob Behne, of Myerstown, was the largest horse dealer of the United States in his day. He always had on hand from 200 to 300 head, sold horses to Barnum & Bailey, the showmen, to the Brewers, and to horse dealers all over the country.

Melchoir Behney was twice married, his first wife bearing him two children, sons, and his second wife, a Miss Fisher, bearing him one son and two daughters. Mr. Behney's second wife was the sister of the wives of his sons by his first marriage. He was a leading citizen of his day, and did much toward promoting movements, for the public good.

Martin Behney, grandfather of Alpheus S., was a farmer, and spent his life in the vicinity of his birthplace, was a public-spirited and influential citizen, and died at an advanced age. He married a Miss Fisher, a sister of his step-mother, and she bore him seven children: John; Jacob; David lost his life in the Civil war; Samuel (father of Alpheus S.); Kate m. a Snively; Sallie m. William Bohr; and Rebekah died unmarried.

Samuel Behney, father of Alpheus S., was born on the old homestead in 1806, and died at Myerstown, in 1885, at the age of seventy-nine years. He learned distilling in his youth with his father-in-law, an occupation which he followed for several years, and then engaged in the manufacture of brick, at Fredericksburg and later in Myers-

town, continuing in this line of business for some fifty years, and furnishing the material for hundreds of houses and buildings in the vicinity of these places. He was a captain of the militia at Jonestown in the days of the old battalions, and upon his removal to Myerstown was succeeded by a Mr. Long. He was one of the public-spirited and progressive men of his day and locality, and was a pillar of the Reformed Church. Samuel Behney was married to Sarah Jane Bashore, daughter of John and Catharine (Fauber) Bashore, and to this union there were born nine children: (1) Edward, who died in Denver, Colo., in the fall of 1905, aged seventy-two years, was a veteran of the Civil war, serving three years, during part of which time he was a prisoner at Andersonville. He was a brick-maker and builder by trade. (2) William, of Pittsburg, was also in the three-years' service during the Civil war, and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. (3) Milton, deceased, one of the first cigar makers, and later a brick manufacturer at Womelsdorf. (4) Melchoir, an extensive contractor and builder and one of the most prominent citizens of Kansas City, was in the three-years' service, and was wounded in battle. (5) Alpheus S. (6) Sarah J. married Harry Wise, formerly of Harrisburg, but now of Philadelphia. (7) Samuel is engaged in real estate dealings in Womelsdorf, where he is treasurer of the Y. M. C. A., and is a man of importance. (8) Levi is deceased. (9) One died in infancy.

Alpheus S. Behney was educated in the Myerstown public schools, obtaining a fair education, which was supplemented by years of practical business experience. He began working as a youth in the brick factory of his father, where he continued until sixteen years old, and when but seventeen enlisted in Company I, 7th P. V. I., being sworn in the U. S. army July 21, 1861, and was in service in that regiment for upward of a year. He then enlisted for a year on the transports, assisting the sick and wounded until the transports went out of commission, when he enlisted a third time, becoming a private in Company H, 186th P. V. I., in which he served until the close of the war. He was in the great Army of the Potomac, participating in some of its fiercest engagements, and was mustered out of service at Philadelphia, in 1865. After his discharge Mr. Behney came to Womelsdorf, where he was engaged in the brick business until 1895, supplying all the brick for houses built in Womelsdorf during that thirty years. His brick was considered the best in the market, and he shipped to Robesonia, and into Lebanon and the surrounding counties. Since 1895 Mr. Behney has lived a semi-retired life. In 1907 he erected two large double brick dwelling houses on Second street, Womelsdorf, although his own home is located on High street, and was erected in 1867. In politics Mr. Behney is a Democrat, and was a councilman for nine consecutive years, rendering valuable service to his fellow citizens and receiving a nomination which he refused. He has various large business interests, owning eight other residences and a large building in which a hosiery factory is conducted; is a director of the Penn National Bank, of Reading, being also on the auditing committee; and he helped to organize the Union Bank of Womelsdorf in 1906, being one of its first directors. Fraternally he is connected with Williamson Lodge, No. 307, F. & A. M., of Womelsdorf; Excelsior Chapter No. 237, R. A. M., of Reading; Reading Commandery, No. 42, K. T., and Rajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., being formerly a child of the Lu Lu, of Philadelphia, the mother of Rajah. He made a tour with the Knights Templars to California in 1883. Mr. Behney is also a member of the P. O. S. of A., No. 679, Womelsdorf, having been treasurer of this camp ever since holding membership more than twenty years. He is a Lutheran member of Zion's Union Church of Womelsdorf, Pa., while his wife adheres to the Reformed belief.

Mr. Behney was married (first) in 1865, to Lizzie Wenrich, born in 1841, who died in 1879, aged thirty-eight years, daughter of Isaac Wenrich. His second marriage was to Permelia Dondor, widow of Horace Hillceass.

The seven Behney brothers closely resembled each other in size, weight and height, could wear the same size of

coat and shoes, and have often been mistaken for one another. They are all reliable business men, and worthy representatives of one of Berks county's oldest and most honored families.

GEORGE W. HAWK, a well-known business man of Reading, Pa., engaged in the manufacture of hosiery, was born Jan. 16, 1866, in that city, son of Nathan and Lydia (Seidel) Hawk, natives of this State.

Nathan Hawk was a prominent manufacturer of wool hats for many years in Reading, on South Eleventh street, under the style of DeHart, Hawk & Co., and was one of the best known business men of his day, retiring in 1880 to enjoy the fruits of a long and active business life. He passed away in 1905, aged seventy-six years, while his wife still survives him. The children born to this worthy couple were: George W.; Ida M. Sylvester Fritz, a dairyman; Anna M. John Bauer, a barber of Reading, Pa.; and Miss Laura. In politics Nathan Hawk was a staunch Republican. When the war broke out he was one of the first to enlist, and he was a member of one of the first companies to leave Reading for the front.

George W. Hawk attended public school at Reading, as well as the pay schools, and his first employment was in his father's factory. He learned the trade of dyeing, which he followed for thirteen years, and in 1897 engaged in the manufacture of hosiery on Court street, with four machines. In this industry Mr. Hawk has been immensely successful, now owning two factories, employing 400 hands. Besides, he is a member of the firm of the Hawk Knitting Company, organized by him in 1901, which also manufactures hosiery. Mr. Hawk manufactures high and medium grades of goods, which find a ready market in the Western States, also having a large Eastern trade. He employs two traveling salesmen to represent his interests throughout the United States.

In political matters Mr. Hawk is a Republican, and he is fraternally connected with the P. O. S. of A. Mr. Hawk was married, in 1887, to Miss Emma Weidner, and two children have been born to this union: Estella and Warren. Mr. and Mrs. Hawk are members of the Reformed Church, and are very highly esteemed in the community.

JOHN S. THOMPSON is recognized as one of the most progressive business men and public-spirited citizens of Reading, to whose material and civic advancement he has contributed through his business associations and service in official capacity, and he enjoys the most unequivocal popularity in the city which has been his home from boyhood days. He is a scion of one of the well-known families of the State, and has held positions of distinctive public trust in Reading, including those of postmaster and member of the city council and school board.

Mr. Thompson was born in Jonestown, Lebanon county, Pa., Feb. 15, 1857, and is a son of Nicholas and Harriet (Ingham) Thompson, the former of whom was born in Ireland, and the latter in Pennsylvania, being the daughter of the late Samuel Ingham, who was a representative business man and influential citizen of Myerstown, Lebanon county, where he was a successful contractor and builder, and where he was also engaged in the undertaking business. Nicholas Thompson came to this country with his parents when an infant. For a number of years he held the position of superintendent of the Union Canal. Later he became superintendent of the sheet-iron mill in this city, having been an ironmaster by trade. He was a man of much ability and was a citizen who ever commanded the high regard of his fellowmen. Both he and his wife continued to reside in Reading until their deaths, and John S. Thompson was their only child.

John S. Thompson secured his early educational discipline in the public schools of Lebanon and Berks counties, and supplemented this by a special course in Brunner & Farr's Business College, in Reading. He initiated his business career by taking a position in the offices of the Union Canal Company, of which his father was then superintendent, and he was thus engaged for a period of three years. He then entered upon an apprenticeship at the trade of a

paper making, to which he continued to devote his attention for five years, after which he was engaged for a time in the butchering business in company with his father-in-law. In 1888 Mr. Thompson was appointed assistant postmaster of Reading under Calvin Goodman, and he retained this incumbency until 1891. At the conclusion of this service he became a special agent for the Reading Fire Insurance Company, with whom he was identified for four years, at the expiration of which time, in 1895, President Cleveland conferred upon him the appointment of postmaster at Reading, an office for which he was specially well equipped, by reason of his marked executive ability and his former service in the postoffice. He gave a most excellent administration and gained the unqualified commendation of the postal department and of the local public. He retired from office in 1899 and resumed his connection with the Reading Fire Insurance Company. One year later, however, there came a demand for his services in the office which he now holds, that of secretary and treasurer of the Colonial Trust Company, of Reading. The company was organized in 1900 and he has held his present office from the initiation of its business, which has grown to be one of wide scope and importance. The company has erected a magnificent nine-story office building, the finest business block in the city, and in the same are located its finely appointed counting room and offices. The administrative ability and personal popularity of Mr. Thompson have been recognized factors in promoting the up-building of the business of the company, which is incorporated with a capital stock of \$250,000.

In politics Mr. Thompson is a stalwart supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, and for four years he represented the Sixth ward in the city council, simultaneously serving as a member of the board of education. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained to the Knight Templar degree, holding membership in the local lodge, chapter and commandery. He is also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife hold membership in the First Baptist Church.

On March 9, 1878, Mr. Thompson married Miss Sarah A. Rader, daughter of the late George Rader, a representative business man of Reading, and to this union have been born two sons: George N., who is teller in the offices of the Colonial Trust Company, of Reading; and John P., who is an expert chemist, being employed as such in the Laboratories of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, Altoona, Pennsylvania.

HENRY KARL JANSSEN, manufacturer of textile machinery at Wyomissing, was born at Barmen, Germany, Feb. 8, 1866, and was educated in the local schools there, attending until 1881. He then learned the trade of a machinist in all its branches, serving the regular apprenticeship of three years. Afterward he followed the customary life of a journeyman mechanic for four years, working in various machine shops in the industrial centers of the Rhine Province, for the purpose of becoming an expert machinist. With this experience he determined to emigrate to America, and in 1888 he went to New York City. He located in Brooklyn, entering the employ of the Castle Braid Company, and after working a while as all-around machinist became, on account of his proficiency, the foreman of the place, and he filled this position until 1892. In that year he moved to Reading and formed a partnership with Ferdinand Thun, a German friend from Barmen, for manufacturing textile machinery. In the organization of the Textile Machine Works in 1900, Mr. Janssen became its president, and he has filled that position to the present time. He also was one of the incorporators and has served as vice-president of the Berkshire Knitting Mills and the Narrow Fabric Company since their organization, having assisted in establishing all of these industries at Wyomissing.

In the building up of Wyomissing, and its erection as a borough in 1906, Mr. Janssen took a very active part, and at the first election of the borough officials he was chosen one of the councilmen. In 1897 he erected a home on a lot

of ground adjoining the Textile Works, and this was one of the first dwellings in the borough. It is situated on the corner of Mory avenue and Van Reed road.

In 1890 Mr. Janssen married Minnie Raeker, daughter of Henry Raeker, of Lippspringe, Westphalia, by whom he had four children: Harry, Minnie, Helen and Elsie (who died young).

Albert Janssen, father of Henry Karl, was born in 1834, along the lower Rhine on the borders of Holland. He learned the business of a book publisher and upon locating in Barmen when he was twenty-six years old, carried on that business, and continued it until his decease in 1878. He married Helen Benner, daughter of Jacob Benner, of Hesse Nassau, and by her he had six children: Albert and Helen, both of whom died when thirty years old; Henry Karl; Ernest, a dyer in Barmen; Johannes, a wholesale merchant at Barmen, and a member of the city council; and Paul, a provision merchant and hotel proprietor at Offenbach, in Hesse.

EDWIN FOSTER SMITH, civil engineer, in the employ of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company since the year 1862, was born in Catawissa, Pa., Aug. 18, 1841, son of James Foster Smith and Ellen Eliza Cadwalader, his wife. Through his father he comes of Scotch-Irish ancestors, and on his mother's side is of Welsh descent. His earlier education was acquired at Reading, where he graduated from the high school with the class of 1858. He entered Union College, at Schenectady, N. Y., and graduated with the degree of A. B., later receiving from Union University the degree of Civil Engineer.

In October, 1862, Mr. Smith entered the service of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company in the engineering department and remained in that employ until the year 1865, engaged on construction work and the locating and building of new branch lines of railroad. During this period, also, he served two short term enlistments in the Civil war, one under the State of Pennsylvania in 1862 and one in the service of the United States in Company F, 26th Pennsylvania Emergency Volunteers, in 1863.

In the fall of 1865 he entered the service of the Schuylkill Navigation Company, of which he subsequently became the chief engineer and general manager. In 1872 there was added the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

In the year 1891 Mr. Smith, who had for some years been the chief assistant engineer of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company, was called to take charge of the construction of the Reading terminal railway and station in the city of Philadelphia, one of the first of the large terminals in this country, and one that has attracted much attention, not only in itself and its appurtenances, but as changing the business conditions of a large surrounding district of the city. He has remained with the railway company up to the present time in the practice of his profession, in charge of hydraulic, steam and electrical plants, and given much of his time as consulting engineer to the development and installation of electrical plants operated by water-power. One of these is at Sewalls Falls, on the Merrimac river, New Hampshire, where the dam and structures for creating the power were designed by Mr. Smith as early as the year 1892, and is one of the earliest examples of the modern system of distribution of power by electricity. In the course of an extended practice of his profession Mr. Smith has served as consulting engineer for many interests involving the solution of problems of hydraulic engineering, designing and building a large part of the extensive water works system of the city of Reading; serving on the board of engineers appointed by the aqueduct commissioners of the city of New York in 1901, to report on questions of engineering construction in relation to the new Croton dam and Jerome Park reservoir; in the investigation of the conditions affecting the Castlewood dam, in Colorado; a general review of the subject of the location and plans for the Nicaragua ship canal, and many others. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Franklin Institute, and the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia.

In 1867 Mr. Smith was married to Nancy King McCurdy, daughter of Dr. J. K. McCurdy and Elizabeth, his wife, of Reading, by whom he has three children. Mrs. Smith's father was a prominent druggist in Reading for many years, having his store on South Fifth street, near Penn; he took an active interest in educational affairs at Reading, officiating as the first president of the board of school controllers from 1865 to 1867; and he and his family were devoted members of the First Presbyterian Church for many years. He died in 1873.

Mr. Smith's father, James Foster Smith, was born at Pittsburg, Pa., on Christmas Day, 1813. He was descended from Scotch-Irish parentage, his grandparents having emigrated to Pennsylvania about 1783 and settled at Pittsburg. In 1822 his parents removed to Fairsville, Pa., and there he received his preliminary education. At the age of twelve years he was obliged to support himself, and he devoted his leisure time to study, inclining toward mathematics and civil engineering. When eighteen years old he entered the service of the Portage Railway Company as rodman; when twenty-three he became assistant engineer of the Catawissa Railway Company; and when twenty-four, the chief engineer of the Morris Canal Company, designing and building during the years 1837 and 1838 the tide-lock at the outlet of the canal in Jersey City, which is still in use. In 1839 and 1840 he was in the service of the Catawissa Railway Company, having designed the celebrated high trestle bridges on its line; and in 1841 and 1842 in the service of the New York & Erie Railway Company. In 1843 Mr. Smith became the superintendent of the lower division of the Schuylkill Navigation Company and served as such until 1845, when he was appointed the resident engineer, taking charge of the reconstruction of the canal between Philadelphia and Reading and finishing it in 1846. In 1850 he was elected the chief engineer, and removed with his family to Reading. He filled this responsible position until 1875, when he relinquished the more active duties and acted as consulting engineer until his retirement in 1885.

During his engineering career Mr. Smith designed and constructed many important hydraulic works, including many of the dams on the Schuylkill river, the Columbia dam across the Susquehanna river, 6,843 feet long; the coal shipping landings at Schuylkill Haven; and the extensive wharves, with automatic coal-transferring machinery, at Greenwich Point, on the Delaware river.

Mr. Smith resided forty-eight years at Reading, took much interest in local affairs, and was a devoted member of the First Presbyterian Church, having served as deacon, elder and trustee for many years. He died Jan. 31, 1898, aged eighty-four years.

EDWARD H. FILBERT. The successful government of a large city like Reading, Pa., requires the best efforts of substantial, reliable and public-spirited men, and one of these is found in Edward H. Filbert, City Treasurer.

The Filbert family is an old one in Berks county. Gabriel Filbert, grandfather of Edward H., was born at Womelsdorf, where he was engaged in farming.

Adam Filbert, son of Gabriel, born in Womelsdorf, moved to Reading, Pa., April 1, 1880, and there died Jan. 5, 1902, aged sixty-six years. He was a miller by trade. He married Catherine Moyer, a member of one of the oldest families in Berks county, and daughter of Henry Moyer, a cabinet-maker and undertaker. They had six children, five of whom survive, namely: Annie, wife of Lee L. Hartzel, with the Yocum cigar factory; Charles F., a coal dealer at Reading; William H., a druggist at Saginaw, Mich.; Ralph, a printer; and Edward H., of Reading. Adam Filbert, the father, was a member of Williamson Lodge, No. 307, F. & A. M.; Excelsior Chapter, No. 237, R. A. M., and Golden Rule Lodge, I. O. O. F.

Edward H. Filbert was born at Womelsdorf, Berks county, Jan. 10, 1871, on the old homestead, and after completing his schooling in the City of Reading, he spent one year in Bright's hardware store as a clerk. He next became connected with the Reading Hardware Works, after which he was clerk in the freight department of the Read-

ing Railroad for six years, going then into the employ of the United States Express Company, as cashier, and remaining about six years in that connection. He was appointed by City Treasurer Hoffman Nov. 16, 1899, to fill out an unexpired term as assistant treasurer, and when Treasurer Tyson assumed control, April 7, 1902, he was retained in a position for which he had shown eminent qualifications. He was elected City Treasurer Feb. 18, 1908, and inaugurated April 6, 1908.

Mr. Filbert was married June 3, 1890, to Miss Clara L. Steiger, daughter of John and Henrietta Steiger, of Reading. She died May 5, 1905, survived by two children, Lee Edward and Marguerite.

Mr. Filbert is a member of the following organizations: Chandler Lodge, No. 227, F. & A. M.; Reading Lodge of Perfection, 14°, A. A. S. R.; Philadelphia Consistory 32°, A. A. S. R.; Excelsior Chapter, No. 237, R. A. M.; Reading Commandery, No. 42, K. T.; Rajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.; Reading Lodge, No. 113, B. P. O. E.; Reading Aerie, No. 66, F. O. E.; Washington Camp, No. 163, P. O. S. of A.; Progressive Lodge, No. 470, I. O. O. F.; Wyo-missing Council, No. 1584, R. A.; Liberty Fire Company, No. 5; Schuylkill Camping Club; Ninety-eight Social Union; Oley Valley Rod & Gun Club; Temple Club; and North Eastern Democratic Association. In politics he is a Democrat, and he is secretary of the 15th Ward Democratic Club of Reading.

CHARLES F. FILBERT, son of Adam and Catherine (Moyer) Filbert, and brother of Edward H., was born in Womelsdorf, Pa., in 1858. He attended the public schools there. In 1880 he engaged in the coal business at the corner of Greenwich and Moss streets, Reading, and remained there seventeen years, meeting with good success in his undertaking, and building up a good patronage. The next five years were spent at No. 1141 Moss street, after which in 1900 he moved to No. 730 Oley, his present location. He sells all kinds of anthracite coal, and keeps two wagons running all the time.

On Oct. 22, 1885, Mr. Filbert married Mary Hans, daughter of Richard V. and Martha E. (Shultz) Hans. They have one daughter, Martha, who married Walter M. Deem, and has two children, Mary and Richard. In religious faith they are Lutherans. Mr. Filbert is a popular member of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, the Knights of the Golden Eagle and the Hampden Fire Company.

SAMUEL H. GRING. Among the representative business men of Reading, who have been identified with the large interests of the city, may be mentioned Mr. Samuel H. Gring, a prominent lumberman, contractor and financier. Mr. Gring was born in Cumru township, Berks Co., Pa., Oct. 7, 1832, son of David and Mary (Hill) Gring, and grandson of David Gring.

The great-grandfather, Samuel, son of Johannes (who emigrated in 1743, and who founded the family in America), came from Holland, and settled in Cumru township, where he became an extensive land-owner and died a wealthy man. His son, David, was born in Cumru township, but in early life located at Tulpehocken creek, where he took up a tract of land, built mills, and like his father became very prosperous. He died at the age of eighty-eight years in February, 1847. By his first wife, a Miss Walsmith, he had eight children as follows: John, who was a minister of the Reformed Church; William, a miller; David, father of Samuel H.; Daniel, a minister of the Reformed Church; Susan, who died unmarried; Mary, m. to a Mr. Lichty; Elizabeth, m. to a Mr. Troxel; and Kate, m. to a Mr. Ringler.

David Gring followed in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, and at the time of his death, Jan. 26, 1890, aged eighty-three years, ten months, seventeen days, he was the owner of several farms and a good mill. He was a Whig, and later became a strong Republican, was prominent in the affairs of his day, and served as captain and major in the State militia for eleven years. He married Mary Hill, who died May 18, 1885, at the age of eighty-one years, seven months, twelve days. To this union were born twelve children, eight of whom grew to maturity, as

follows: David, a miller; Daniel (engaged in farming); Samuel H.; Annie (m. George Zerr); Mary (m. Joshua Grill); John (a miller and tanner); Charles (proprietor of a hotel); and Franklin (a farmer). The family were all members of the Reformed Church.

Samuel H. Gring was educated in the schools of Spring township and remained on the home farm until twenty-five years of age, working about the home mill, driving a team, and turning his hand to any employment that presented itself. He then went to East Cocalico township, near Denver, where he purchased a mill and remained until 1871, selling out in this year and removing to Newville, Cumberland county. Here he engaged in a lumber business, buying a tract of timber land which he converted into lumber for railroad purposes, and in 1876 he removed to Muhlenberg, locating in his present home two years later. This house was built about 1734, and at the time Mr. Gring purchased it it was the property of Dr. Muhlenberg. His next lumber enterprise was back of Lewistown, where he purchased a tract of pine and oak timber. He then went to Mount Rock, Cumberland county, and afterward in turn to a tract near Mechanicsburg, to near the Loop in Perry county, Pa., to Bloomfield, Perry county (where he operated two saw mills), to Turley Valley (where he operated three mills), to Huntingdon county, Pa. (where he carried on operations for three years), and to Bedford county, Pa., until 1886, in which year he purchased 10,000 acres of land, building a railroad sixteen miles long to get lumber out, this road being known as the Diamond Valley Railroad. In 1890 he returned to Perry county and leased seventy-one tracts of timber land, surveyed the line to New Germantown, a distance of thirty miles, and in September of that year grading was commenced, ties put down and rails laid. By Jan. 26th of the following year, sixteen miles of railroad had been built, and the following year the road was built to Blaine, and in 1892 completed from Newport to New Germantown. Mr. Gring's son, David Gring, is the president of both of these roads, including the one from Duncannon to Bloomfield, which is known as the Perry County Railway, and father and son deal extensively in lumber in North Carolina, Virginia and throughout the South, also being the owners of twenty-five water companies.

On Dec. 14, 1856, Mr. Samuel H. Gring married Catherine Hoyer, daughter of Simon Hoyer, a bridge-builder. She died June 8, 1900, aged sixty-three years. Nine children were born to this union: David, of Newport, m. Emma Caldwell, and has five children—Bruce, Rodney, Herbert, Wilber and Elizabeth; Kate m. Daniel B. Snyder, and had nine children—Sue S., Evan G., Lucy M., Charles L., Lester B. and four that died young; Elizabeth m. John Leithaiser, and has two children—Hattie and Grace; Samuel, deceased, m. Annie Fisher, and has one child—Bertha; Charles died at the age of twenty years; Susan died at the age of four years; and three died in infancy. In religious belief Mr. Gring and his family are members of the Grace (Alsace) Reformed Church of Reading, he being a member of the finance committee. In politics a Republican, he was treasurer of the township of East Cocalico, Lancaster Co., Pa., during the latter years of the war.

RAYMOND MOHR, the founder of the well-known firm of Raymond Mohr & Son, of Birdsboro, this county, was a resident and business man of that place for the long period of half a century, having settled there in 1857. He made his early success as a contractor and builder, and later displayed equal ability in the undertaking and furniture line, having for many years the only establishment of the kind ever conducted in Birdsboro. His son, Edwin F. Mohr, has succeeded to his interests, having been associated in business with his father since 1895.

Mr. Mohr was born Sept. 30, 1834, near Gibraltar, in Robeson township, this county, on his father's farm, the property at present occupied by Mrs. James Trate. Samuel Mohr, his father, was a carpenter by calling, and had a great reputation as a builder of barns, following the method then in vogue of hewing the timber from the tree, and framing it together with tenon and mortise, fasten-

ing each with pins instead of by the nailing process which now prevails. Although Samuel Mohr had acquired little education, he had a marvelous faculty of being able to designate beforehand each stick and make an accurate general list of the lumber that would be required for a building. His son, Raymond, gave evidence of a mechanical turn, and the father taught him the trade, making him as capable as himself in the ability to specify requirements of materials for a building. The son became noted as an excellent workman, rapid, and decidedly industrious. By his own efforts he became a fine draughtsman, and in nearly every case designed and made the general and detail drawings for the buildings he erected.

After receiving some education in the township school, Raymond Mohr came to Birdsboro in 1857. In 1858 he married Mary, eldest daughter of the late Daniel Focht, of Robeson. Upon deciding to make Birdsboro the scene of his life's work Mr. Mohr purchased the lot where his late residence now stands, on Furnace street, at a time when only two houses were on said street. He erected his own house, putting on all the weather-boarding and the finish with his own hands. He then began the contracting and building business, in which he soon developed a large trade. In one year he erected for E. & G. Brooke, of the town, forty-eight dwelling houses. He erected No. 1 and No. 2 blast furnaces for the Brookes, the nail factory building, the mansion now occupied by George Brooke, and a large addition to the present Birdsboro residence of Robert E. Brooke. The two mansions erected by the late Mrs. M. T. Cingan, at Cingan Station, were built by Mr. Mohr, as were also many of the large store buildings and good class of residences in the town. In his early days he erected the pipe mill and other manufacturing buildings for Seyfert & McManus, at Reading. He was especially capable in the erection of heavy work, understood rigging and the use of hoisting apparatus, and was an excellent handler of large forces of men.

Mr. Mohr's father was an undertaker, and taught his son the trade, and in 1860 Raymond Mohr engaged in the business at Birdsboro. When he learned the trade only coffins were used as the casements for corpses, and they were made by hand. The present handsome finishings were unknown, and they were devoid of linings, a bundle of shavings serving for a pillow. The lids were made of wood and put on with ordinary wood screws. The best ones were rubbed with wax to secure a polish, and a hot flat iron was used to rub the melted wax to a gloss. There were no hearses, the coffin being placed on a spring wagon, and around it sat as many of the friends as could get into the vehicle.

When Mr. Mohr took hold of the business he at once introduced improved methods, purchased the best up-to-date outfits, and at the time of his death was equipped for the business in a manner fully equal to the best city directors. In addition to undertaking he engaged in the furniture business, conducting the only store of the kind that the town ever boasted. This store he designed and erected himself, adjoining his dwelling, and he always made it a point to keep a stock and assortment equal to city standards. He had a most active career, meeting with uncommon success. Besides many other financial interests, he possessed at the time of his death forty houses in Birdsboro, and owned property in other places. His building business was the most extensive of any in the county outside of Reading; his furniture store controlled a trade almost as great as some of the big Reading houses, and in his work as a funeral director he personally supervised over five thousand funerals. He was one of the oldest undertakers in continuous business in the county and his reputation extended throughout Berks county and beyond.

Mr. Mohr was one of the leading citizens of Birdsboro, identified with many of the public affairs of the place. He served a term in the town council and could have held official position many times had he permitted the use of his name. He was a member of Neversink Lodge, No. 544, I. O. O. F., a director in the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Berks County, a member of the State Funeral Directors' Association, and of Friendship Fire

Company, No. 1, of Birdsboro. When St. Mark's Lutheran Church was instituted in Birdsboro he was one of the first members, and he continued an attendant and a supporter of the cause until his death. He was ever alert to progress in business, took an eager interest in current events, and in the management of his varied interests displayed an industry and activity comparatively phenomenal.

Mr. Mohr departed this life Feb. 14, 1907, leaving a wife and two children: Mary Louisa, now the wife of Reese E. Beard, of Reading; and Edwin F., residing in Birdsboro, Pa. A son, Louis Raymond, died Dec. 17, 1893, aged twenty-one years.

EDWIN F. MOHR, son of Raymond Mohr, of Birdsboro, was born April 29, 1875, in Birdsboro, and received his education in the public schools. He has given all his working years to the business in which he is still engaged, and which he learned thoroughly under paternal instruction, supplemented by his own well-directed efforts. He took a course in the Massachusetts School of Embalming, from which he graduated Nov. 18, 1898, and has spared no pains to make the service from his establishment up to the best standards anywhere. His methods and equipment are first-class in every respect, and he has kept his business up in every line. For some years he was engaged in the furniture business, his stock of furniture and carpets equaling those found at the large business centers. Very recently he relinquished this department of trade, to give his entire attention to funeral directing. He is progressive and enterprising, being one of the most active young business men of the borough, and is broad and generous in his dealings, whether in business or private life. He is well known in his line, being a prominent member of the Funeral Directors' Association of Pennsylvania.

On June 23, 1897, Mr. Mohr married Miss Sadie Geyer, daughter of Henry A. Geyer, of Birdsboro, and they have had one son, Raymond. Mr. and Mrs. Mohr are members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, and in fraternal connections he is an Odd Fellow, belonging to Neversink Lodge, No. 514, of Birdsboro, and Lodge 115, B. P. O. Elks, of Reading. He is also a member of Friendship Fire Company No. 1, of his native town. He is a Republican in political faith, and active in the work of the party, representing it in county and State conventions from time to time.

Since Mr. Mohr has given his sole attention to the undertaking business, he has kept pace with the leaders in that line and is excelled only by directors of the large cities in ability to conduct funerals. His knowledge is ever added to by the investigation and adoption of the latest processes and he is painstaking and assiduous in his efforts to enhance his skill and be a credit to his associates in the profession, and give satisfaction to his patrons. He constantly improves his needed paraphernalia, and never allows his equipment to deteriorate or become incongruous with the times. As a consequence he has gained for himself the respect of his competitors, and drawn to himself a large clientele, in his local town and from a large radius in the surrounding districts.

IRWIN T. EHST, director of the National Bank of Boyertown, director and secretary of the Franklin Improvement Company, director and secretary of the Union Manufacturing Company, director of the Manatawny Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Company, secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Boyertown Gas Company, and interested in many other of the largest and most important industries of Berks county, was born in Oley township, this county, Nov. 19, 1860.

(I) Nicholas Ehst (also spelled Ihst and East, and in the Pennsylvania archives among the list of emigrants Ish) was the ancestor of the American branch of the family. He was born in Switzerland in 1711, and he came to the New World on the ship "Pink Plaisance," which qualified at Philadelphia Sept. 21, 1732. He located in Colebrookdale township, Berks county, and became the owner of about 400 acres of land, near Gablesville, on the Popodickon creek. This tract has been divided into four farms, namely: the one on which the original buildings

are located, now owned by Jacob B. Bechtel, and containing 103 acres; the second owned by the widow of John Butz; the third owned by William C. Eddinger; and the fourth by John B. Bahr. On the part owned by Jacob B. Bechtel is a private burying ground where Nicholas Ehst and his wife, as well as later generations, are buried. The inscription on the tombstone of Nicholas Ehst, who died in 1804, reads: "Hier ruhen die Gebeine von Nicholas Ihst, war alt 93 Jahre"; and on that of his wife: "Hier ruhen die Gebeine von Veronica Ihst, war alt 90 Jahre." The Ehst family are members of the Mennonite Church, and many of them are buried at Boyertown and Bally meeting houses. The children of Nicholas Ehst and his wife were: Daniel (whose children were—John, Daniel, Abraham, Anna and another daughter), Abraham, Molly and Elizabeth.

(II) Abraham Ehst, son of the ancestor, became the father of four children: Samuel; Nicholas; John; and Anna (m. Henry Freed, and lived for some years near Norristown and then moved to Michigan, where both died, the parents of Catharine, Dinah, Anna, Mary, a daughter not named, Abraham, Henry and John).

(III) Samuel Ehst, son of Abraham, met an accidental death in December, 1812, while in Philadelphia with a team. His three sons and six daughters were: Elizabeth, Polly, Dinah (born 1800), Abraham, Anna, Catharine, John L., a son (no name), and Helena, the last named being a posthumous child.

(III) Nicholas Ehst, son of Abraham, married Elizabeth Lathshaw, and settled in Chester county, Pa. They had three sons and five daughters, namely: Catharine, Dinah, Elizabeth, Mary, Abraham, Jacob, John and Magdalena.

(III) John (Johannes) Ehst, son of Abraham, was born April 12, 1782, and owned the farm now the property of Jacob B. Bechtel. In 1806 he married Anna Margaret Weise (born July 28, 1786, died Dec. 10, 1810), and they had two children. He married (second) in 1812, Elizabeth Schwertley. To this second union were born three sons and five daughters: John, Polly, Abraham, Samuel, Elizabeth, Magdalena, Catharine and Anna. Of these Abraham and Samuel are both living (1908). Abraham was born March 28, 1817, on the original Ehst homestead, and he now lives at Barto, spending a part of his time with his son, Rev. John, who lives between Bally and Clayton. He is a most remarkable man, well preserved, bright, humorous, and possessed of a wonderful memory. He has never been obliged to wear glasses. At the age of twenty-one, he weighed 210 pounds, and now in his ninety-second year weighs 240. He married Susanna Moyer, born 1821, daughter of Michael Moyer. She died in 1869, the mother of Elizabeth, Rev. John, Henry, Abraham, Susanna, David and Jacob.

(IV) John L. Ehst, son of Samuel, was born Nov. 3, 1803, and at his death, Dec. 9, 1886, he was buried in Bally Mennonite Cemetery. He was a farmer in Colebrookdale township, but later he and his son Levi conducted a tannery near the Pike line in Oley township. He married Magdalena Gabel, born Feb. 22, 1806, died Jan. 1, 1899. They had four sons and one daughter: Leah, who married John H. Funk; Jacob, who conducted a hotel in Reading; William, living in Washington township; Henry G.; and Levi, of New Berlinville.

(V) Henry G. Ehst, son of John L., was born in Colebrookdale township, July 7, 1835, and he died on his farm in Washington township in 1890, and is buried at the Mennonite Meeting House at Bally, formerly called Churchville. He was a good quiet citizen, true to the teachings of his faith. He married Rachel Tea, daughter of James and Elizabeth (Maul) Tea, both natives of England. Their children were: Irwin T.; Madara; Allen, a butcher at Bechtelsville; Warren, living near Bechtelsville; William, a school teacher in Washington township; Ammon, of Reading; Annie, m. to Allen Erb, of Bechtelsville; and Cora, m. to Elmer Oberholtzer, of Bechtelsville.

(VI) Irwin T. Ehst, son of Henry G., was born in Oley township Nov. 19, 1860, and was reared upon his father's farm, attending the public schools in the vicinity of his

home, and later Prof. D. B. Brunner's Scientific Academy, Reading. In 1879 he was licensed to teach school, and he taught one term in Washington township. He then came to Boyertown and learned the printer's trade in the office of the *Boyertown Messenger*. For about four years the firm was Ehst & Fines, the partner being Calvin F. Fines, and they carried on a stationery and printing establishment, but Mr. Ehst, since April, 1889, has been alone. Mr. Ehst is a progressive and public spirited man, and he has taken an active interest in many of the leading enterprises of his town and county. He is a director and stockholder in the National Bank of Boyertown, Burial Casket Company (employing 350 people), the Union Manufacturing Company (employing sixty people, and making all kinds of castings), and a director of the Franklin Improvement Co., builders. He is the principal owner of the Boyertown Gas Company, of which he is secretary, treasurer and general manager, and he is the business manager of Ehst & Co., largest real estate dealers in and about Boyertown. He is a director of the Manatwiny Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Company.

Mr. Ehst has been prominent in the public life of Boyertown. In politics he is a Republican, and for five years he was justice of the peace, and since 1896 he has been a notary public. He has been the adjudicator of a number of estates. At the time of the Opera House fire, Jan. 13, 1908, he was appointed by the Burgess as chairman of the Relief committee, with the privilege of choosing his own committee. This committee had charge of the identification and burial of the 171 dead, caring for orphans and relief, and the distributing of the \$23,000 popular subscription.

Fraternally Mr. Ehst is a Mason, belonging to Stichter Lodge, No. 251, F. & A. M., Pottstown; Bloomsburg Lodge of Perfection, 14th degree; Bloomsburg Consistory, 32d degree; Rajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., Reading. He also belongs to Washington Camp, No. 104, P. O. S. of A., of Boyertown. He is unmarried.

LEVI H. FOCHT, head of the firm of L. H. Focht & Son, general contractors and builders, is one of the leading men in his line in Berks county. He maintains his business headquarters in Reading and his home in the borough of Birdsboro, and is actively identified with the most progressive interests of both places. The business in which he finds his chief interest was established in 1870, and evidences of his work abound in and around Reading, though his operations are by no means confined to this locality.

Mr. Focht was born Aug. 3, 1850, in Robeson township, Berks county, where his family has long been located. He is of German descent. His grandfather, George Focht, was born Feb. 1, 1773, and followed farming in Robeson township. But he was also an undertaker and cabinet-maker, and in the pursuit of those callings settled in Birdsboro, where he carried on business for a number of years. A clock which he made in 1832 is now one of the cherished possessions of his grandson, Levi H. Focht. George Focht died March 1, 1839. He married Catherine Huyett, and they had the following named children: John, born June 14, 1801; Samuel, born Aug. 8, 1805, who was engaged in business as a carpenter in Reading, as such building the Mellvaine rolling-mill and also the first house erected by E. & G. Brooke in Birdsboro; Daniel, born April 20, 1807, who was the father of Levi H. Focht; Mary, born Jan. 18, 1809, who married a Hiester; Charles, born Jan. 3, 1812, who also followed carpentering; George, born Jan. 1, 1814; and Jacob, born July 18, 1815, a carpenter of Reading, who was the last survivor of the family, dying Dec. 26, 1886. This family were all Lutherans in religious belief.

Daniel Focht was born April 20, 1807, on the homestead in Robeson township. Practically all of his active years were spent in the service of the Schuylkill Navigation Company, whose employ he entered in early manhood, and he was so reliable a workman that at one time he had charge of construction and repairs on the Schuylkill canal. He also cultivated the homestead farm after his father's

death. He met his death by drowning in the canal, about two miles above Birdsboro, Oct. 14, 1871. Daniel Focht married Catherine Hemmick, daughter of David Hemmick, and she died June 6, 1863, at the age of fifty-four. To their union were born nine children, eight of whom lived to maturity, viz.: Mary Ann, born May 21, 1834, m. Raymond Mohr (deceased); Sarah, born Nov. 21, 1835, m. Lewis Fritz; one died in infancy in 1837; Catherine, born Sept. 19, 1839, m. David Mock; David, born Oct. 30, 1841, died Nov. 7, 1874, leaving a widow, Mrs. Martha (Lincoln) Focht, who still resides in Reading; Leah, born Oct. 24, 1843, m. Jeremiah Deeter; Elizabeth, born March 21, 1845, m. Jeremiah Weidner; Hannah, born April 17, 1846, m. John Lacey; Levi H. was born Aug. 3, 1850. The father of this family was a Lutheran in religious connection, the mother a member of the Reformed Church. He was a Democrat in political sentiment.

Levi H. Focht was educated in the public schools of Birdsboro, and began work at the early age of thirteen, in the employ of the Schuylkill Navigation Company. He was engaged in repair work on the canal for two years, after which he commenced to serve his apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, under his brother-in-law, Raymond Mohr, of Birdsboro. He also learned undertaking. For a time he found employment on the Perkiomen railroad, later working for Berton & McDonald, bridge builders, of Philadelphia, on a number of bridges in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. When only eighteen years old he was given charge of the construction of the large wooden bridge across the Pompton river on the line of the Midland railroad of New Jersey—conclusive evidence of his remarkable ability in the building line. In 1870 he began to take contracts on his own account, and he was successful from the beginning, for his youth seemed to make no difference in the confidence which his patrons had in his integrity and capability. In 1873 he established himself in Birdsboro, and many of the most important buildings in that borough, including structures in both the business and residence parts, are of his construction. He deserves the greatest share of the credit for the beautiful section of Birdsboro now included in the east ward, formerly known as Lincoln-town, most of the attractive and substantial residences which have made that locality famous having been erected according to his plans and under his supervision. Since 1874 Mr. Focht has had his business headquarters in the city of Reading, as more accessible to the extensive territory from which he draws his patronage. In the spring of 1906 he admitted his son, George Walter Focht, to a partnership, under the firm name of L. H. Focht & Son, and their offices are located in the Baer Building, in Reading, where they enjoy all the modern facilities for the conduct of their widespread interests.

Mr. Focht has had numerous contracts from the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company, having erected most of the stations along their line, besides many elegant and commodious residences along the line of the Pennsylvania road. He also put up the stock farm buildings on the estate of Mr. A. J. Cassatt; an addition to the Haverford (Pa.) College buildings; the Wood Memorial Chapel, adjoining Christ Cathedral, in Reading; and various other structures which display his artistic and architectural ability, as well as his thorough workmanship in the merely mechanical part of the work. He has always depended upon the excellence of his work to gain him new customers and retain the old, and he has had no reason to regret the course he has pursued throughout a career filled with unusual activity. The firm has a reputation second to none for work of high quality, reliability and irreproachable standards, and few business houses in any line enjoy such unlimited confidence either among patrons or business associates.

Mr. Focht has always been vitally interested in the welfare of his home borough, Birdsboro, and he has found time to advance its interests in numerous ways. He has served twenty-four consecutive years as member of the council of that borough, and has been a member of the Birdsboro Fire Company since its organization, acting as treasurer of the company for twenty-one years. He has

been a stockholder in and director of the First National Bank of Birdsboro since its organization, and in this connection it may also be stated that he has been a director of the Reading National Bank since its organization. He is a staunch Republican in political faith.

In the fraternal circles of Reading and Berks county generally Mr. Focht is a familiar and popular figure. He is a high Mason, holding membership in Chandler Lodge, No. 227, Excelsion Chapter, No. 237, Commandery No. 42, K. T., and Rajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., all of Reading; and Philadelphia Consistory, thirty-second degree. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F., belonging to Never-sink Lodge, No. 514, of Birdsboro; to the I. O. R. M., at Birdsboro; the Fraternal Order of Eagles; Reading Lodge, No. 115, B. P. O. Elks, and Mount Pleasant Council, No. 37, O. U. A. M.

On May 23, 1874, Mr. Focht married Alice Beard, daughter of Jeremiah Beard, of Birdsboro, and to them were born two sons, George Walter and Levi Roy, the last named dying March 12, 1889. As previously stated, George Walter Focht is now in partnership with his father in the contracting and building business. He married Miss Alice Huyett, daughter of Isaac Huyett.

WILLIAM ENGLE, a prominent and well-to-do business man of Reading, who is the owner and operator of a paper box manufactory, was born in this city Dec. 5, 1843, son of Daniel and Mary (Crisher) Engle, grandson of John Engle, and great-grandson of Jacob Engle who was an officer in the Continental army, and fought under General Warren at the battle of Bunker Hill. Jacob Engle was one of those who came from Germany to drill troops prior to the great struggle for freedom, and on peace being declared he received a large tract of land from the Government for services rendered. He settled upon a portion of this tract, which was located in Montgomery county, Pa., and there resided the balance of his life.

John Engle, grandfather of William, was born in Montgomery county, and operated a portion of the land deeded by the Government to his father, also carrying on a butchering business in connection therewith all of his life. He married and became the father of the following children: Jacob, John, Daniel, Samuel and one daughter. As far back as is known, the family were Lutherans in religious belief, and in politics were Whigs. Daniel Engle was born in 1800, in Montgomery county, and when seventeen years of age came to Reading, where he learned the coopering business, and for many years manufactured cedar hollow ware, becoming very successful. He retired several years prior to his death, which occurred July 2, 1894, and his wife passed away in 1887, aged seventy-six years. Eleven children were born to this couple, seven of whom reached maturity: Anetta m. Daniel Fisher, of Philadelphia; Daniel is deceased; William H.; George is assistant superintendent of the Merriek Iron Company, of Philadelphia; Rosie m. Milton Palmer, of Reading, Pa.; Mary is deceased; and Richard is employed by his brother, William. In religious belief Mr. and Mrs. Engle were Lutherans. In political belief he was first a Whig, and later became a Republican.

William Engle received his preliminary education in the schools of Reading, and later attended the Reading high school. When a young man he learned the trade of a cooper, which he followed for some years, and in 1886 engaged in the manufacture of paper boxes. Starting in a very small and primitive way Mr. Engle worked his way steadily upward, now owning one of the most complete plants in the State, and controlling some of Reading's best trade. He employs on an average twenty-five hands in his plant, which is located at Seventh and Walnut streets, and his business is steadily increasing. Mr. Engle was married in 1867 to Amanda Marshall, daughter of Dr. Jacob Marshall, and one son was born to this union, Walter, who is superintendent of his father's plant. Mr. Engle married (second) Katie Moyer, of Reading.

In 1862 Mr. Engle enlisted and went to the front with the Pennsylvania Militia, but in 1863 joined the Independent Ringgold Artillery. He is connected with the G.

A. R. Mr. Engle is a Lutheran, while his wife is an Episcopalian.

SYDENHAM E. ANCONA, son of Morris M. Ancona, M. D., and Mary Ann (Knapp) Ancona, was born in Warwick township, adjoining Lititz, Lancaster county, Pa., Nov. 20, 1824.

M. M. Ancona was a native of London, England, born Feb. 9, 1791, and died at Pottsville, Pa., March 20, 1851. His father was M. Ancona, a marble and statuary mason, who died in London, of which city his ancestors, for some generations, had been residents. His wife was a Montifiore, and, as were the Anconas, of Italian descent. They were merchants at Leghorn and are presumed to have come from the city of Ancona, Italy.

The family moved in the spring of the year 1826 from Lititz to Bern township, Berks county, about two miles from Bernville, near Sculls Hill; from this place to Lebanon about the 1st of April, 1829, and in 1830-31 to Kelly's Corner, near the Conewago creek, Lebanon county; from Kelly's Corner in 1833 to Porter's Store, on the road from Colebrook Furnace to Elizabethtown; in April, 1836, to Caernarvon township, near Churchtown, Lancaster county, where they remained until 1840; from there to Alsace township, Berks county, near Stony Creek. He worked on a farm in Saucon township, Lehigh county, for four months. The subject of this sketch then, upon the suggestion of his father and in response to an advertisement in the papers, applied for a select school in Upper Bern township, and was employed by the executors of the estate of Valentine Wagner. This school at the time was the only English school west of the river, except the public schools at Womelsdorf. The compensation was ten dollars per month besides board. The following year the compensation was increased to fifteen dollars per month. He spent the summers of 1843 and 1844 at home. In the fall, seeing an announcement in the papers that twenty-one teachers were wanted in Earl township, Lancaster county, he, among some fifty other applicants, was examined at New Holland, passed and obtained a school.

In June, 1845, he made a trip to New York and Boston by way of Providence, returning to Reading, and leaving in July for Niagara Falls and Canada. At that time the method of reaching New York was by stage via Allentown, Easton to Morristown, N. J., and from there to New York by rail. After leaving Niagara he proceeded to Buffalo, then a town of from ten thousand to twelve thousand inhabitants, going from there by steamer to Cleveland about the 20th of August, and from the latter place to Akron by canal boat. From this point, with a companion whom he happened to meet, and who proposed to him that they walk to Lancaster, he proceeded as far as Chambersburg, Pa., where they separated.

After some months at home, given up to farming, Mr. Ancona accepted in 1845 an English select school at Seyfert's Mills, in Upper Tulpehocken township, Berks county, having about twenty pupils at this school and being very successful in instructing them. He had some very bright boys there, notably Charles Albright, who afterward became a general in the army during the Civil war, a prominent lawyer, and was elected to Congress on the ticket at large from Pennsylvania some years after the close of the war.

Having decided in the year 1846 to discontinue teaching school, on the invitation of Daniel H. Feger, who had obtained a position with the Reading Railroad Company, Mr. Ancona accepted a position in the service in the same department with him as an assistant timekeeper, devoting himself with all his energy and giving his entire time to the requirements which they demanded. He continued with the railroad company until 1862, in the position of chief clerk and bookkeeper from December, 1851, having been acting as assistant timekeeper previous thereto. At the close of December, 1851, he took charge of the general books of the company, which were then out of balance and in a neglected condition. He succeeded at once in the work, although he had had no previous experience in double entry bookkeeping.

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When nominated for Congress in 1860, without having given the company any notice of his purpose, he was warmly congratulated by the general manager of the company on his achievement. A few days thereafter he received the gratifying communication from the president of the road that his election to Congress would not interfere with his position with the company, and that they expected him to return at the end of the session.

During his connection with the railroad company, in 1849, together with his brother-in-law, Daniel H. Feger, he organized a military company known as the Reading Rifles, which was composed largely of young men employed by the Reading Railroad Company, engineers and machinists. It was a notable organization numbering some two hundred, thoroughly armed and equipped with rifles furnished by the State. It had a band of music made up of its own members, and was decidedly one of the crack volunteer organizations of the country. It was attached to the 1st Brigade, 5th Division, P. V., under the command of William H. Keim, of Reading. The company made several notable excursions to Philadelphia as the guests of the celebrated State Fencibles, then under the command of Col. James Page. They were received by the State Fencibles in the grounds surrounding Independence Hall, and were presented by Colonel Page, in behalf of the State Fencibles, a handsome silver-mounted rifle and a gold medallion containing Colonel Page's portrait with a suitable inscription. In 1854 the company went on an excursion to Washington and Mount Vernon. They passed through Philadelphia under the escort of the State Fencibles. At Washington they were received by the "German Jaeger," commanded by Major Schwartzman, together with other volunteer companies in the District of Columbia at the time. They were received by the President of the United States, General Pierce, and his Secretary of War, Jefferson Davis, in the East Room of the White House, having 137 men in line, all told. In presenting the company, each man was introduced by name to the President and Secretary of War. The company was complimented by both the President and Mr. Davis. The company was entertained by Hon. J. Glancy Jones, the representative from Berks county, at his home. The arsenal and navy yard were visited, and Mount Vernon reached under the escort of Major Schwartzman and his company. Returning home, they stopped over in Baltimore, the next day at York, had dinner at Columbia, and were received in Lancaster by the Buchanan Rifles and entertained at a banquet at Fulton Hall in the evening. They attended the reception tendered to Louis Kossuth, the celebrated Hungarian patriot; also the reception to the first Japanese legation that visited the United States.

Mr. Ancona retired from the Rifles soon after this excursion in consequence of a political controversy with men who had left the Rifles and joined a rival organization. He was then invited to take command of the Reading Troop, a cavalry company that dated its organization from the Revolutionary war. He accepted, and was subsequently elected major of the Reading Battalion by a very large majority. Mr. Hiestor Clymer, later his successor in Congress, was supported by the opposition, but Mr. Ancona carried the companies by a majority larger than the total vote of Mr. Clymer in the Ringgold Light Artillery, which was the finest military organization in the United States.

In February, 1861, Governor Curtin sent Maj. Gen. William H. Keim (5th Division, Pennsylvania Volunteers, to which the brigade was attached) to him and Capt. James McKnight to ascertain whether their companies could be held in readiness to respond to a call in defense of the government. They conferred with their men and had them pledged by oath to go out in defense of the government, then threatened with secession by a number of its States. The call came finally, but for the Ringgold Artillery only. In April after the President's Proclamation, and on the same day that the call came from Governor Curtin, Mr. Ancona went

to Harrisburg to ascertain whether his company was also to be sent, but was advised that for the time being no cavalry companies would be called.

On July 4, 1861, the XXXVIIIth Congress was called in special session, and having been elected as a representative from Berks county, he took his seat and soon after called upon Secretary of War Cameron, with Captain McKnight, George Durrell and John B. Kiefer, who was a nephew of Cameron and had been a member of the Reading Rifles. He then asked the General what the probabilities were of his company being called. The General replied that they "had more men than they wanted," and hence Mr. Ancona made no further effort to obtain recognition. A very short time thereafter a mustering officer was sent to Reading without his knowledge. The company was mustered in, divided into two companies, the one under George Clymer as captain and the other under J. C. A. Hoffeditz. Thus he failed to get into the service owing to circumstances over which he had no control.

Mr. Ancona was elected to the XXXVIIIth Congress in 1860 and took his seat on July 4, 1861, at a special session called by President Lincoln. He was also elected to the XXXVIIIth and XXXIXth Congresses. He served on the committee on Commercial Affairs, which as he says had but little opportunity for recognition, as most business which should have been referred to it was referred to the committee on Ways and Means, which also controlled the appropriations during these years. Later, however, he was placed on the committee on Military Affairs, which was a very active and important body, of which Gen. Robert C. Schenck was chairman. Among the members of this committee was James G. Blaine of Maine, as well as a number of other equally prominent men. While on this committee he frequently met Mr. Blaine, who was a very industrious and active member.

About this time General Grant was considered a favorite candidate for the Presidency, and the so-called radical representatives of the House, including such men as Thaddeus Stevens, William D. Kelly and Henry Winter Davis, of Maryland, did not favor his nomination. Mr. Blaine predicted, however, that he would be nominated on the Republican ticket. This proved to be correct.

Through the influence of General Schenck a resolution was introduced in the House, tendering the thanks of Congress to General Hancock for his distinguished services during the war, and especially at Gettysburg. The matter was referred to the committee on Military Affairs, who ordered Ancona to report favorably to the House. This brought him into direct communication with General Hancock, who wrote a very handsome letter of acknowledgment. In consequence a close personal friendship sprang up between him and General Hancock; frequent conferences took place between them by reason of the prominent position of General Hancock as a favorite candidate of many Democrats for the Presidency. At the request of Mr. Glover, a prominent attorney of St. Louis, Hancock and Ancona met at Milwaukee, the General being at that time at the head of the Department at St. Paul. Subsequently, there were meetings at Norris-town and Governor's Island, Col. De Puy Davis and B. Markley Boyer, among others, being present.

He enjoyed very pleasant relations with Edward M. Stanton, the Secretary of War, having met Mr. Stanton at a party given in honor of J. Glancy Jones at the residence of Maj. William Flinn, who was an intimate acquaintance of President Buchanan. On that occasion he met also Judge Black, who had been Buchanan's Attorney-General and afterward his Secretary of State. He recalls that during the conversation with Mr. Stanton, whom he met that evening, he expressed his views very freely and criticised the policy of the administration in the conduct of the war. Mr. Stanton did not dissent; Mr. Ancona's surprise can be imagined when he saw in the morning papers the next day that Mr. Stanton had been appointed Secretary of War to succeed Mr. Cameron.

After his failure to obtain the renomination for a fourth term to Congress, in 1866, his colleagues from Pennsylvania had President Johnson name him for naval officer, port of Philadelphia. Strong and representative Republicans in his district had requested Senator Cameron and others to favor his confirmation by the Senate, this being done without his request and knowledge until one day communicated to him by Judge Kelly, of Philadelphia, in the committee-room on Military Affairs. He was frequently importuned to again run for Congress, but peremptorily declined.

Mr. Ancona had been connected with the fire department of the city of Reading for some years when on the suggestion of Gen. George M. Keim he took the presidency of the Reading Hose Company. General Keim headed a subscription with one hundred dollars toward the purchase of a steam fire-engine in 1858. With his accustomed energy and determination he succeeded in getting the first steam fire-engine into Reading at a cost of thirty-six hundred dollars. It was called the "Novelty," and was built at the Novelty Works in New York, by Lee & Larned. In 1867 he, with a few others, organized the Hampden Fire Company, of which he was the first president. He has been re-elected and occupied this office for forty-two years continuously. He is also a delegate to the Firemen's Union.

He has held the office of treasurer of the Reading Firemen's Relief Association since its organization and has always been prominently and actively connected with the volunteer fire department of the city of Reading. He was a member of the Reading school board and the president of that body for several terms. He served for many years with Judge Stitzel and Charles Brenciser, Sr., as a member of the local board of charities, appointed by the Governor. Governor Pattison appointed him a trustee of the State Asylum at Harrisburg. He was one of the originators of the Reading Steam Forge, Cotton Mill, a director of the Reading Savings Bank, and was identified as president, secretary and director with building and savings associations for over sixty years.

Having some relations with the officers of the Fire Association of Philadelphia, he proposed to the fire department in the city of Reading the organization of an insurance company for insurance against loss by fire on a plan somewhat similar to the plan of the Fire Association of Philadelphia, which had grown out of the old volunteer fire department of that city, and had an accumulation at that time of some millions of assets. The necessary legislation was obtained, but he could not convince the representatives of the various fire companies in the Firemen's Union of the feasibility of his plan. He then organized a stock fire insurance company with a capital of \$100,000, of which \$35,000 was subscribed by his friends. Twenty per cent was paid in so that he had \$7,500 in cash when the company organized. He started business July 8, 1867, and was elected secretary and treasurer. The company had a board of directors, composed of some of the leading business men of the city. Judge J. Pringle Jones was elected president, and Maj. James McKnight, vice-president. He served as secretary and treasurer for over thirty years and from the small beginning of \$7,500 he increased the paid-up capital to \$250,000, and net surplus over and above the capital to \$300,000.

He also, during this period, succeeded in organizing the Reading Trust Company, with many of the stockholders of the Reading Fire Insurance Company, and with the same board of directors and officers, he serving as secretary and treasurer of this company.

With the tendency to consolidation of insurance business by the insurance companies, by re-insurance and otherwise, with strong competition by companies with large aggregations of capital, and owing to excessive losses for two years previous to 1898, he was impressed with the belief that the Reading Fire Insurance Company had reached the greatest success it could attain under the adverse prospect, and he therefore determined to effect a re-insurance of the Reading Company with some

large company to continue the Reading Company as before, and to have all its policies and liabilities underwritten by such a company, taking all its revenues, and paying all its expenses and the rental, which would be equivalent to a dividend of from ten to twelve per cent to the stockholders of the Reading Fire Insurance Company. After several negotiations with companies in the United States and Europe, where he went in 1896-97 with this purpose in view, after he had abandoned all hope of effecting such a transaction, he received a communication to enter into negotiations with the Hartford Fire Insurance Company. He met Mr. Chase, the president of the company, and seemed in a fair way of coming to an agreement, but the methods proposed to accomplish the purpose did not meet with his approval and were promptly declined. Mr. Edward Cluff, of New York, who had heard of these negotiations, had at the same time proposed an arrangement with the Scottish Alliance, which was declined. The president of the Scottish Alliance had been cabled for, however, and a meeting was arranged in New York for this purpose, which finally resulted in the sale of the stock of the Reading Fire Insurance Company, with the consent of a large number of the stockholders, the Scottish Alliance paying the stockholders twenty dollars a share, and from which they had received an average dividend of eight per cent per annum, for over thirty years.

During a period of over fifty years Mr. Ancona was an active member of the Masonic fraternity. In 1848, with some associates and friends, he organized a lodge known as Chandler Lodge, No. 227, of which he became Worshipful Master. He was also a member of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and received the degree of Knight Templar in Philadelphia. He was also appointed Eminent Commander, but he did not attend the meeting for the installation of officers by reason of the death of his father. In 1870, with a few friends, he applied for authority for another Commandery, K. T., which was accomplished and became known as Reading Commandery, No. 42. He was appointed to and accepted the position of Eminent Commander, with the understanding that he would do no more than preside for the year at their meetings. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the District of Berks, Lebanon and part of Montgomery counties in 1861-62-63-64, and 1874-75-76.

He was elected president of the Penn Street Passenger Railway, the first road in the city of Reading. He was also one of the projectors and directors of the Mt. Penn Gravity Railway Company in 1889, and has continued as director in it ever since.

Notwithstanding a long and busy life he has found time to travel extensively, not alone the many trips through every State and Territory of the United States, but frequent trips abroad and to the Indies. He has devoted his attention to public matters and the common good, giving them the advantage of his wide experience and close observation. Philanthropic and charitable, and intense in all his undertakings, he has well filled to the fullest measure, and enjoyed the blessings of, a life of over fourscore years, retaining full possession of his vitality, energy and mental faculties.

EDWARD S. WERTZ, who conducts the Wertz Milling Company at Reading, one of the best known establishments of its kind in Berks county, was born in Harrisburg, Dauphin Co., Pa., Feb. 23, 1850, son of Samuel and Maria (Swiebert) Wertz.

Samuel Wertz, his father, was born March 2, 1809, in the Canton of Aargau, Switzerland, and in his native country learned the trade of wool fulling. In 1827 he came to America, settling first at Frankford, Philadelphia, where he manufactured cotton-laps and wadding. He subsequently removed to Harrisburg, where he operated a flouing and woolen-mill and remained until 1856, at which time he engaged in business at the old Ritter Head stand, in Exeter township. The following year he removed to Spring township, Berks county, where he purchased the old Airhouse Mill property, which he rebuilt, making vast

improvement in the establishment, and he successfully operated it as a flour and feed mill until 1870. That year he settled in Reading and opened the flour and feed store which he conducted until his retirement, in 1880. His death occurred in 1884, when he was seventy-five years old.

Mr. Wertz was twice married. His first wife, Maria Swigert, a native of Lancaster county, Pa., died in 1852, leaving six children, namely: Louisa M. m. Amos Price; Elizabeth, deceased, m. Herman Stroecker; George W.; Samuel; Edward S., and Jacob Henry. On April 28, 1853, Mr. Wertz m. (second) Catherine Waldenmyer, daughter of John Waldenmyer, and to this union two children were born, Augustus and Frank. Mr. Wertz was a member of the Reformed Church, while his wife held to the faith of the Lutheran denomination. In politics he was a staunch Democrat.

Edward S. Wertz was quite young when his father came to Berks county, and here he received his education in the public schools. From boyhood he was employed around his father's milling establishment, and when sixteen he left home to complete his apprenticeship at the miller's trade. He went to Huyett's Mill at Shillington, in Cumru township, remaining there about a year, after which he took a responsible position at Womelsdorf, having charge of a flouring mill owned by a Mr. Fisher. There he also spent a year, and then accepted a similar position at the old Hiester Mill, in Bern township, later going to Reed's Mill, in Robeson township. Going to Chicago, Ill., in 1871, Mr. Wertz spent one year there in the storage warehouse business, at the end of that time returning to Reading, where he was employed by Heilman & Co., hardware merchants, who were then located on the present site of the Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart store. After two years' service with this firm he went to the old Wertz Mill property in Spring township, and for twenty-five years carried on the mill there. It was one of the old-style burr mills, and was one of the first to be adapted to the modern roller process, the necessary changes being made by Mr. Wertz, who during his occupancy of the property rebuilt the establishment four times. He enlarged as well as modernized it, increasing the capacity as trade demanded from a fifteen-barrel mill to a seventy five-barrel mill. It was there he first manufactured the now celebrated Wertz Roller Cream Flour, which has gained an enviable reputation throughout this section of Pennsylvania. Mr. Wertz still continues the manufacture of this brand, which has lost none of its popularity, for he has sustained its high quality to the present time.

In 1898 Mr. Wertz removed to Reading, where he established his present plant, his mill and office being at Nos. 135-141 Buttonwood street and conducted under the name of the Wertz Milling Company. His mill is one of the best equipped in the State of Pennsylvania, no device or approved pattern known to flour manufacturers having been omitted in fitting it up, and the conduct of the plant and standard of products are accordingly high. All the product is disposed of to the local trade. The brands manufactured by the Wertz Milling Company are Roller Cream, Gold Dust, White Rose and Minnehaha, all of which are in popular use throughout this section. Besides his milling business Mr. Wertz is interested in other lines, being an extensive dealer in farm products and having the largest hay storage plant in the city of Reading. During the year 1905 he handled 185 carloads of grain, hay, etc., and his business is steadily on the increase. In this line he gives employment to eight men. He is one of the directors of the Pennsylvania State Millers' Association.

Mr. Wertz was married Sept. 11, 1873, to Miss Sarah Kercher, daughter of William Kercher, of Bern township. They have had no children of their own, but have reared two: Emma Gerhart, who is now married and resides in Schuylkill county; and Hannah Malbon, wife of Harry Foelt, Mr. Wertz's able assistant in his milling operations.

With all his extensive business cares Mr. Wertz finds time to take a public spirited interest in local affairs, and to devote to benevolent and charitable objects. He is secretary and treasurer of Kissinger's Church, of which

he has been a member for many years, and in September, 1908, he was elected an elder. He served as superintendent of the Sunday school for a period of thirty-eight years. He is a member of the board of trustees of the Topton Orphans' Home, and a member of the school board of Reading. Fraternally he is a Mason, holding membership in Lodge No. 62, F. & A. M.; Excelsior Chapter, R. A. M.; Reading Commandery, K. T.; and Rajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.

A. ELLSWORTH LEINBACH, vice-president of the J. G. Leinbach Company of Reading, was born Oct. 24, 1862, in the city with which his whole business career has been identified. His parents were Mahlon A. and Mary E. (Adam) Leinbach.

Mahlon A. Leinbach was born April 14, 1840, in Bern township, Berks county, but while he was a small child his father removed to Exeter township, and the boy attended school there. He has always been engaged in the manufacture of pants and woolen goods, and gained his first insight into the details of that work under William Brumbach, with whom he remained a number of years. From there he went to the Reading Mills, of which his brother J. G. was one of the owners and was given an interest in the firm, being one of the organizers of this large plant. He was active in its management till July, 1904, when he retired from the firm, although he still retains stock and is one of the directors. He is also a director of the Mt. Penn Gravity Railroad, of the Reading Cold Storage Company and of the Black Bear Railroad. Mr. Leinbach married Miss Mary F. Adam, of Berks county, and they had a family of seven children, only two of whom are living, A. Ellsworth and Charles E. The latter resides at home and is foreman of the spinning department in the Reading Mills. The family residence is at No. 311 North Fourth street, where Mr. Leinbach built a home specially adapted to his own needs and ideas. With his wife and sons he is a member of the First Reformed Church.

A. Ellsworth Leinbach during his boyhood attended the Reading schools, and then entered the Reading Mills. He advanced steadily through different positions, becoming familiar with the various departments of the factory, and is now in charge of the weaving departments. His official position, since the incorporation of the company, has been vice-president, and he has proved himself a most efficient, capable and wide-awake business man. He has also been active in politics, a strong supporter of Republican principles, and has done much service for his party, as delegate to county and State conventions, as secretary of the county committee, and as chairman of the Seventh Ward Republicans, while he has also been a member of the school board of Reading for several years.

In 1884 A. Ellsworth Leinbach married Miss M. Alice Lotz, daughter of Caspar and Rebecca (Nagle) Lotz, of Reading. Two children have been born to them, viz.: Ada L., who was graduated from Marshall Seminary, at Oak Lane, Philadelphia, in 1904, married William A. Heizmann, a young business man of Reading; and Caspar L. died Feb. 20, 1905, aged fifteen years, three months and twenty-two days. The family residence is at No. 314 Oley street. Socially Mr. Leinbach is a member of Isaac Hiester Lodge No. 660, F. & A. M.; Reading Lodge of Perfection, 14th degree; Harrisburg Consistory, 32d degree; Rajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.; and Reading Lodge, No. 115, B. P. O. Elks.

DR. CHRISTIAN NICHOLAS HOFFMAN, physician at Sinking Spring for forty-five years, was born in Northampton county, Pa., Aug. 11, 1833. He received his preliminary education in the township schools and at Nazareth Academy. Later he attended the Jefferson Medical College, at Philadelphia, from which he was graduated in 1862. He immediately located at Sinking Spring and continued in active practice forty-five years, retiring in June, 1908, on account of illness. He died July 6, 1907. He built up a large practice which reached out into the country for ten and even twenty miles, which evidences

his great success and the confidence the people had in him. His devotion to his profession was extraordinary; he hardly ever taking any vacation, and this burden was shared with great fidelity by his devoted wife. He was recognized as an able physician, and was highly respected among his fellow townsmen. In politics he was a Republican, and in religion a member of the Reformed Church in Northampton county. For some years he took an interest in the Order of American Mechanics. Dr. Hoffman was the last of his family, which had boasted of seven doctors in two generations, including himself and his brother, his uncles and cousins.

In 1870 Dr. Hoffman married Ellen Ann Jones, daughter of John H. and Margaret (Seitzinger) Jones, and they had two daughters: Katherine Jones, who married W. W. Webber, and has two children—Harold Hoffman and Christian Hoffman; and Margaret Adelia.

Paul Hoffman, father of the Doctor, was a farmer of Northampton county and was born in 1802, and died in 1866. He married Catherine Peysher, and they had four sons: Paul J., Christian N., Rev. Philip P. A., and Dr. James.

Michael Hoffman, the grandfather, was also of Northampton county.

Mrs. Hoffman's grandfather was Samuel Jones, who married Elizabeth Huey, and was the father of four children, John H., Thomas H., Mary (m. Jacob Van Reed) and Margaret (m. Dr. Darrach). Her maternal grandfather was Jacob W. Seitzinger.

LEVI E. LEFEVER, chief burgess of the borough of Boyertown, who, since 1907, has resided in his comfortable and attractive home at No. 112 Reading avenue, has been long identified with the agricultural and business interests of this section of Berks county. He is a representative of one of the old established families, and was born April 5, 1857, in this borough, son of William and Rachel (Eshbach) Lefever.

Anthony Lefever, great grandfather of Levi E., was born May 12, 1767, and died May 26, 1852, aged sixty-five years, fourteen days. The family records tell that his wife was accidentally burned to death from sparks from the old-fashioned fireplace. Their children were: Anthony, Levi, Mrs. Charles Keller and Mrs. Jonas Schmehl, all of whom reared families of their own.

Levi Lefever, son of Anthony and grandfather of Levi E., was born June 4, 1795, and died an accidental death, Dec. 27, 1862, aged thirty-seven years, six months, twenty-three days, and was buried at Pricetown, Berks Co., Pa. His wife Mary, born Aug. 6, 1796, died Sept. 10, 1839. He was a tanner and owned and conducted a business of this kind at Pricetown, where he had other property. He had two sons: William and Levi H.

William Lefever, father of Levi E., was born Oct. 26, 1830, at Pricetown, Pa., and resides at Sassamansville, in Douglass township, Montgomery Co., Pa., a well preserved man. In his early years he worked as a stone mason, later coming to Boyertown, where he conducted a farm for his father-in-law, Joseph Eshbach, for a time. He afterward entered into partnership with his brother, Levi H. Lefever, and they conducted a general store at Sassamansville for a number of years, after which they sold out, Levi H. coming to Boyertown, where he conducts a general store, but William remained at the old place and continued storekeeping for a time, and then began cigar manufacturing together with farming. He did a large business and continued active in it until 1903, when he retired. He married Rachel Eshbach, and to them were born twelve children, as follows: Minerva m. John Reaminger, of Boyertown; Levi E.; Mary m. Harry Hoffman, of Reading; Irwin, deceased; m. Maria Gerhart, and they had three children, Eitan, John and Lottie; Amanda m. Rev. Harrison Meyer, a minister in Carlisle county; Kate m. Rev. Amundus Herbst, of York county, Pa.; Dr. Rufus E. is engaged in medical practice in Reading; Emma died

young; and three died in infancy. Mr. Lefever has long been a leading citizen of his community, and he has been frequently appointed administrator to settle up estates.

Levi E. Lefever attended the public schools of Boyertown and Mount Pleasant Seminary, and when sixteen years of age learned the tinsmith's trade, serving an apprenticeship of four years. He worked at this trade at Boyertown until 1878, and then embarked in a business of his own as a tinsmith and handler of stoves, etc., which he continued for twenty-eight years. His whole attention, however, was not claimed by this enterprise for he owns a fine farm of ninety-nine acres, situated in Earl township, three and one-half miles northeast of Boyertown, the work on which he superintends personally. He has it well stocked and it is a remunerative piece of property. In 1905 he erected the present frame house which replaced a log house that had stood since the days of the Revolutionary War. Mr. Lefever is treasurer of the Electric Light Company, of which he was one of the organizers and which was chartered in July, 1908. Since 1906 he has been president of the Keystone Fire Insurance Company and to all these important business interests he gives due attention.

In 1878, Mr. Lefever was married to Rosa Ann Ritter, daughter of Lewis Ritter, of Colebrookdale township, and to this marriage have been born the following children: Charles resides at Boyertown; Addie M., who perished in the Boyertown fire, Jan. 13, 1908, was the beloved wife of Harry Leinbach, and she left two children, Florence and Paul; Edgar resides at Boyertown; Maggie also perished in the Boyertown disaster, aged twenty-one years; Joseph died in 1904, aged twelve years; and Florence resides at home. Mr. Lefever and family are members of St. John's Lutheran Church, at Boyertown.

Mr. Lefever has been active for many years in fraternal organizations, and on various occasions has been elevated to offices of trust and responsibility in the same. He is a member of Salah Castle, No. 78, Knights of the Mystic Chain, in which he has held all the offices. Since 1900 he has been chaplain of Popodickon Tribe, No. 338, Order of Red Men, is district deputy, and has held all the offices in the organization. He is the degree master of the staff, is past grand and also degree master of Boyertown Lodge, No. 708, I. O. O. F.; and belongs also to the order of Eagles, at Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

In his political affiliations Mr. Lefever is frankly and unequivocally a Republican, and has frequently served as a delegate to county and State conventions and for twelve years served as inspector of elections and committeeman at Boyertown. For three years he served as a school director and has always been interested in public education. When only twenty-three years old, Mr. Lefever was elected a member of the borough council and served through one year, which was the length of term at that time. In 1901 he was again elected to the council and served his term of three years, and in February, 1909, was elected chief burgess for a term of three years. He stands as a representative of the best citizenship of his community.

HARRISON LANDIS, successful manufacturer of lumber and boxes at Philadelphia, was born in Washington township, Berks county, near Bally, Dec. 23, 1832. He received his preliminary education in the township school, and at Boyertown (in Mt. Pleasant Seminary and Hankey's Academy), and then attended the Mennonite Educational Institute at Wadsworth, Ohio, for two years. Upon his return home he taught public school at Niantic near by for one term, and then assisted in clerking in the country store of his uncle, Jacob Oberholtzer (which was situated on the premises adjoining his father's), for two years. He then took a regular course in the business college of Bryant & Stratton at Philadelphia, and entered the office of the paint works of Ziegler & Smith, where he was engaged as a clerk for five years; and was next in the well-known steam-shiping office of Peter Wright & Sons for three years.

With this preparation for a business life, Mr. Henry H. Sheep (his brother-in-law, manufacturer of cigar-boxes

since 1876) formed a partnership with him in 1881, and under the firm name of Henry H. Sheip & Co. they developed a constantly increasing trade until 1899, when they organized a corporation entitled "Henry H. Sheip Manufacturing Co." Since then, the corporation has been carried on successfully, with Mr. Landis as secretary and treasurer. They started with twenty hands, but now have over 800, notwithstanding the introduction of many costly labor-saving machines. Their annual volume of business exceeds a million and a half of dollars; and their trading relations have been developed to extend throughout the United States and into many foreign countries; and from the manufacture of cigar-boxes they have gradually branched out until their product includes small wooden boxes of every variety, veneered boxing lumber, and casing for electric wiring of buildings; they also deal in all kinds of lumber for manufacturing and building purposes. It is the only large plant of the kind at Philadelphia, and has been kept running constantly from 1881 until the present time.

In 1876 Mr. Landis was married to Emma Louisa Sheip, daughter of Levinus and Lucy Ann (Hangen) Sheip, of Bucks county, and sister of his partner in business. By her he had three children: Stanley Winfield and George Clarence (both of whom are engaged in the financial department of the works mentioned), and Mabel (m. Howard G. Meyer). His wife dying in 1883, he in 1892 married Mary A. Gyger, only child of John and Sarah (Nightingler) Gyger of Philadelphia, by whom he has two children: Mary Esther and Mildred.

His father was George Oberholtzer Landis, retired farmer of Washington township, Berks county, who was married to Mary Mohr, daughter of Andrew Mohr of Macungie, Lehigh County, by whom he had seven children: Harrison, above mentioned; Emma; Henry m. Emma Stiefler, and is now in Japan, where he has been connected with the Meiji Gakuin, a Presbyterian College; Evan m. (first) Emily Hamer and (second) Mabel Prouty; Sarah m. Clement Bechler; Irwin m. Sophie Hammell; and Oliver m. Clara Stoudt. The mother died in 1906, aged seventy-six years. The father died Oct. 29, 1908, aged eighty-two years.

His grandfather was Henry H. Landis, born in 1798, died in 1860; m. in 1823 to Susanna Oberholtzer, daughter of Jacob, and after her decease to Elizabeth Knetz in 1856, and he had seven children: George, above mentioned, Jacob, David, Aaron, Susanna, Esther and Amanda.

The Landis family was founded in America by Hans Landis, a native of Holland, who left his native land during the early half of the eighteenth century, locating in Douglass Township, Montgomery County, Pa. He was the owner of a tract of land located near Congo, which he disposed of to members of the Bauer family in 1773 for six pounds and seven and one-half bushels of wheat as part payment on the property. Among the descendants was Henry H. Landis, the grandfather of the subject of the above sketch.

A. M. HIGH, postmaster of Reading, Pa., and the most potential force in the Republican party of that city, is a son of Joel and Marie (Merkel) High, and was born in Richmond township, Berks county, Dec. 19, 1849.

The High family is of German descent, but generations ago settled in Pennsylvania. Solomon High, grandfather of A. M., was born in Richmond township, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. In politics he was a Whig, but during the latter years of his life he belonged to the Republican party. He was a member of the Reformed Church, and was a captain in the old State Militia. He was the father of three children, one son and two daughters, and passed away in 1874, his wife surviving him many years, and dying in 1891.

Joel High, father of A. M. High, was also a native of Richmond township, and after obtaining an education in the public schools of his district, turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He became one of the most substantial farmers of that section, and died in 1872. His wife died in 1896. The latter, whose maiden name was Marie

Merkel, bore him eleven children as follows: James; Joel; A. M.; Jacob; Solomon; Daniel; Samuel; Charles; and Wilson, Emma and Mary, all three deceased.

A. M. High, who is a man of liberal education and wide information, attended the common schools in his youth, and afterward took a course in the Keystone State Normal at Kutztown. He then taught school for two terms, after which he clerked in a general store at Fleetwood, Berks county. After remaining there for one year, in 1868 he removed to Reading, accepting a position in the dry goods store of B. H. Brown, continuing there for one year, and then holding a similar position for a year and a half in a general store. He next embarked in business for himself, establishing a tailor shop and general store at No. 824 Penn street, where he was successfully engaged for nineteen years. He was then associated with John Rieger, in the same line of business, but after a period of three years the latter was succeeded by Mr. High's son, Mr. High and his son conduct a high class tailoring business, having a large patronage. Although giving the closest attention to business Mr. High's eminent qualifications for a political force and influence in his party, brought him to the fore many years ago, and for twenty-three years he has been the recognized leader of the Republican party in Berks county, the *Philadelphia Record*, of Aug. 30, 1903, in an exhaustive article on his political career, dubbing him the "Regent of Berks." Recognizing his invaluable services to the party, he was made postmaster of Reading, in 1899, reappointed in 1903 and again in 1907. He has been four times a delegate to the Republican National Convention, having been the first delegate chosen in the United States for the successive conventions of 1888, 1892, 1896 and the third one chosen for 1904. His services at the head of the organization were invaluable to the cause, and by his honest and energetic methods of conducting campaigns he strengthened the hold of the Republican party in Berks county, even gaining friends in opposing factions. A man of magnetic presence and fine character, he has a large following, and is a "tower of strength" politically and socially.

Mr. High married Miss Lizzie Delp, and they have had three children: Harry S.; Howard J., deceased; and Wayne M. The family is one of the best known and most popular in Reading.

WARREN L. DAVIS, son of James and Anna (Greatake) Davis, was born at Birdsboro, Berks county, Oct. 24, 1868. After receiving a common school education in the local schools, he, while yet a boy, established a messenger service between Birdsboro and Reading, which he carried on successfully for a year and a half. Then he located at Reading and learned printing, but not being satisfied with this occupation he entered the employ of George S. Herbein, dealer in furniture and carpets, and continued with him six years. During this time he qualified himself thoroughly for accounting, and entered the hardware house of Bright & Lerch. Appreciating his efficiency, they in 1895 selected him as their chief clerk and treasurer, which position he held until the death of Mr. Lerch in 1898, when the firm changed to Bright Company. In the new firm he performed the same duties as Mr. Lerch and also remained their treasurer until July, 1901, having been in their employ for thirteen years.

In 1901 he was offered the responsible position of general bookkeeper of the Farmers National Bank, of Reading, the oldest and strongest bank in Reading. He accepted this position and his proficiency was so great that in August, 1903, he was promoted to be cashier, and this position he has held most creditably until the present.

Mr. Davis married, Dec. 25, 1895, Laura M. Dillon, daughter of Moses Dillon, of Reading. They have two children, Stewart and Anna Louise. They belong to St. Barnabas Protestant Episcopal Church.

WILLIAM K. GRIM was a very prominent and influential citizen at Poyertown, and his death Aug. 14, 1905, was greatly deplored. The Grim family is one of the oldest in the county, and owes its residence here to

the emigration from Germany of Johan Egilius Grim. The home of the family was originally in Normandy, and the lineage is traced back to a Baron there in the time of William the Conqueror. One branch of the family went to Alsace, and to that branch the Berks county Grims belong.

(I) Johan Egilius Grim came to America in 1728 with the Rev. John Casper Stoever, and he settled first in Weisenburg township, Northampton (now Lehigh) county, but it appears he later came to Maxatawny township, Berks county, and secured a large tract of land. His house was a most substantial one, and to it other settlers fled for refuge in time of Indian disturbances. Two of his sons served in the war of the Revolution, and most of his descendants are members of the Lutheran Church. The will of "Giti, alias Gideon" Grim was made Jan. 28, 1760, and was probated Oct. 1, 1761, when Jacob and Henry Grim, his sons, were appointed as executors. In this will he gave his land to his sons Jacob and Henry; fifty pounds to his daughter Catharina; fifty pounds to his daughter Elizabeth (who married Casper Merker); thirty pounds to Francis Roth "son of my daughter Margareth."

(II) Henry Grim, son of Giti, was born in Maxatawny township in 1733, and died in 1804. He married and had three children: Jacob, Jonathan, and Gideon.

(III) Gideon Grim, son of Henry, was born in Maxatawny township, where he became an extensive and successful farmer. His death occurred in 1823, when he was aged sixty-three years. By his wife, Elizabeth Kirby, an Englishwoman, he became the father of five sons and two daughters, namely: David, who died unmarried; Nathan, who settled at farming in Columbia county, Pa.; Gideon and Benjamin, millers at Weisenburg, in Lehigh county; Joshua, a farmer on the homestead; Hannah (m. John Seigfried); and Dinah (m. John Dreher).

(IV) Gideon Grim, son of Gideon and Elizabeth, was born on the old homestead in Maxatawny township Aug. 31, 1792. He carried on milling and farming for many years in Exeter township at the home of his father in law, Henry Knoose. In 1839 he purchased in Colebrookdale township two farms of about ninety acres each, with a ten yard, and these he operated until his death April 27, 1848. He was buried in the Boyertown cemetery. He hauled the product of his farm and tannery to market in Philadelphia by team, and was well known throughout the county. He was an official member of the Lutheran Church. He married Esther Knoose, and had two children: William K.; and Levi, who died at the age of eighteen.

(V) William K. Grim was a son of Gideon and Esther, and was born in Exeter township May 28, 1825. He early learned the tanner's trade from his father, and often used to accompany the latter on his trips to Philadelphia, and at the age of sixteen William K. began making these trips alone. He operated the tan yard until 1874, when that enterprise was abandoned on account of the scarcity of tan bark. A flour and grist mill was then built on the property, and this is still in operation. Two years before this Mr. Grim had moved to Boyertown, and in the business life of that town he at once entered, taking an active part therein until his death. He built the large Grim block, was instrumental in organizing the National Bank of Boyertown, of which he was a director for some years, and later he was one of the organizers of the Farmers' National Bank, in which he was a director and later vice president. He was a heavy stockholder in the Colebrookdale Iron Company, established in 1835, and incorporated in 1886, and located at Pottstown, and after he became its president its scope was largely increased, their goods being shipped to all parts of the world. In politics Mr. Grim was a Democrat, and for thirteen years was burgess of Boyertown, and during the administration of President Cleveland was its postmaster. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, and in that faith died Aug. 14, 1905.

On June 11, 1853, William K. Grim married Loretta B. Rhoads, daughter of John and Catherine Rhoads. She was born Aug. 21, 1825, and died Aug. 4, 1906. Her maternal grandparents were Henry and Sarah Boyer.

Henry Boyer and his brother Daniel were the first settlers of Boyertown, and from them the town derived its name. To William K. and Loretta B. Grim were born four children: Mahella, Sarah (m. Frank W. Schold, manager of the New York Telephone Company, at Yonkers, N. Y., who in 1902 became associated in an official capacity with The Hudson River Telephone Company, at Albany, N. Y., at which place he died April 16, 1904), William R., and Kate.

(VI) William R. Grim, son of William K. and Loretta B. Grim, was born April 24, 1860, and was given the benefit of a good education. After studying in the public schools, he went to Mt. Pleasant Seminary and then to Muhlenberg College, graduating from the latter in 1882. He read law at Salina, Kans., and was there admitted to the bar. He later went to Texas, and located at Texarkana, where he became cashier of the Texarkana National Bank, and in 1903 was elected its president. This bank is a strong financial institution, and is a power in its locality. Mr. Grim is also interested in railroads. He married Sarah Hauberger, of Philadelphia, and they have two children, Emeline and Loretta.

MARTIN S. CROLL, President of the National Bank at Topton, Berks Co., Pa., and senior member of the firm of Croll & Smith, manufacturers and jobbers in hats, caps and straw goods, is one of the leading business men of this part of the county and comes from an old and honorable family. Martin S. Croll was born Aug. 19, 1841, in Maxatawny township, Berks Co., Pa., son of John and Catherine (DeLong) Croll. The family is of German extraction and its founder in Pennsylvania was one Philip Croll, who settled in Montgomery county. His four children bore the names of: Christian, Henry, Michael and Polly.

Henry Croll, son of Philip, and great-grandfather of Martin S., married a member of the Gilbert family, and then removed to a farm in the vicinity of Pittsburg, where the rest of his life was spent. Among his numerous children, Joseph was the immediate ancestor of the subject of this sketch.

Joseph Croll was born in Allegheny county, learned the tanning business and worked at that until 1813, when he married and removed to Greenwich township, Berks Co., Pa. He married Elizabeth Schlenker, daughter of John and Barbara (Tressler) Schlenker, and they reared a large family. Later he settled at Krumville, where he died in 1817, survived by his wife until 1872.

John Croll, son of Joseph and father of Martin S., was born May 19, 1814, near Grimville, Berks Co., Pa. He learned the trade of tailor. In 1868 he removed to a place near Wessnersville, where he lived for one year and then settled at Kutzown, where he followed his trade for about fourteen years, and then, in 1853, removed to North Whitehall township, Lehigh county. He bought a small farm near Schnecksville, and at his home conducted a large tailoring business, giving employment to a dozen workmen. He was a good business man and in addition to conducting this large and profitable business, from 1865 to 1875, he was interested in dealing in timber lands. During the last years of his life he engaged successfully in trucking and huckstering. John Croll was an influential member of the Democratic party, and wherever he lived was solicited to hold office on account of the integrity of his character and his excellent judgment on all matters pertaining to the common good. As early as 1850 he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church, and until his death he remained a consistent member of that religious body. In 1837 he married Catherine DeLong, daughter of David and Catherine DeLong, of Maxatawny township, who was of French Huguenot extraction. They had eight children, six sons and two daughters, namely: Alfred, Hiram, Martin S., Silas, Cyrenius Charles, Elmira, Philip Columbus and Priscilla Susanna.

Martin S. Croll was educated in the local schools and at the Quakertown Academy, following which he taught school for two seasons, but on April 1, 1864, turned his attention to a business career, becoming a clerk for Joseph

Miller, a merchant at Rocksville. Some months later he accepted a similar position at Rockbrocksville, and remained there over three years. On March 1, 1881, he entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, Stephen Smith, and they leased a store and hotel at Monroeville, where they conducted a successful business for five years. The business was then removed to Rockbrocksville, where they continued until 1889.

In the meantime, Mr. Croff had become interested in additional enterprises. In 1881, the firm became associated with Silas Croff, in a coal and lumber business at Farmington. One year later, Silas Croff withdrew, but the enterprise was continued by the other partners until 1893. In 1892 a farm was purchased at Foston on which Mr. Croff erected a fine residence. The firm of Croff & Smith, which is located at No. 119 North Sixth street, Reading, is known all over the State as prominent manufacturers and jobbers and also as honorable dealers. It has been before the public for the past twenty-two years. The business is largely wholesale, employment is given to a large force, and traveling men of experience represent it in this and other States.

As the head and front of the large financial institution known as the National Bank at Foston, Mr. Croff's prominence and integrity have been recognized. This bank was opened for business, July 2, 1906, with the following officers: Martin S. Croff, president; John Hartley, vice president; and A. H. Smith, cashier. The following capitalists make up the board of directors: M. S. Croff, John Hartley, George Schwartz, Roy J. H. Rider, Edward DeLong, B. Frank Baer, A. P. Smith, Samuel Hecavick, Irwin Geary, Dr. J. H. Worley and W. H. Clymer. The bank has met with success from the beginning. It is capitalized at \$250,000, and has large fortunes and reliable men behind it. It probably has the most modern bank building of any in this section of the State, its equipment including burglar proof vaults.

On June 10, 1884, Martin S. Croff married Elizabeth A. Grim, daughter of Jonas Grim, a well-known farmer of Lehigh county. They have two sons, William Martin and Charles Alfred, both of whom have proved themselves good business men and enterprising citizens. In his political affiliation, Mr. Croff has always been a Democrat and, at various times, has served as most of the local offices, has been township editor and deputy collector of internal revenue. For three years he served effectively as a member of the borough council of Foston and has also been town treasurer. Many and increasing business cares have prevented his acceptance of numerous honorable offices and positions of trust at the head of various organizations to which his admiring fellow citizens would have gladly elevated him. He has always taken a lively interest in charitable and philanthropic enterprises, and it was largely due to his earnest efforts that the Lutheran Orphan Home was located at Foston, in 1896. For many years he has been an active worker in the Lutheran Church, in which he has been both elder and deacon. He is a man who, in every respect, is entitled to the good will, respect and thorough esteem of his fellow citizens.

REV. WARREN F. FEEL, Ph. D., principal of the Schuylkill Seminary, Reading, has acquired a high reputation by his efficient services at the head of that institution. His executive ability has been called into constant use, as well as his qualities as an educator, for he has developed the Seminary up to its present condition from a most unpromising state, a work requiring a combination of business faculty and educative talents somewhat rare among professional men.

Mr. Feel was born April 11, 1868, at Martin's Creek, in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, and comes of German and Scotch-Irish ancestry, being a son of Amos and Anna (McElroy) Feel, the latter now deceased. The father was formerly a farmer, and is now living at Foston, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Feel had the following family: Warren F., Herbert, who is a produce merchant of Foston, Pa.; Harry C., who is with the Madeira Steel Company, of Philadelphia, Frank, a merchant, in

gaged in the Philadelphia Steel Works, and Marion, likewise a merchant at the same works.

Warren F. Feel is practically a self-made and self-educated man. He learned the printers' trade with Fries Wessel and then formed a partnership with his maternal uncle, Thomas L. McCall, at Locksville, Pa., and pulled successfully for nine years. But he was ambitious to enter the ministry, and with that end in view lost no opportunity for improving his literary acquirements. He pursued his college course at the North Western College, Naperville, Ill., and also took a course at the Columbia School of Theology, Chicago. Subsequently he did special work at Cornell and Harvard. At no time he had done considerable practical work, especially in the temperance cause, in which he has been interested from early manhood. While a student at North Western he gave notable service on the lecture platform in the interest of the Young People's Christian Temperance Union, meeting with unusual success, and receiving favorable comments from the public and the press as a forceful and pleasing speaker. He has never lost his interest in this line of Christian work and for four years was president of the Young People's Alliance of the East Pennsylvania Conference Branch. After completing his college course Mr. Feel was located at Pen Aryst, Pa., where he had charge of the Bethany Evangelical Church for eight months, until called to his present work. At the annual meeting of the East Pennsylvania Conference of the Evangelical Association held at Norristown, Pa., in February, 1901, he was elected by the board of trustees of Schuylkill Seminary, which is under the patronage of the Conference to the principalship of the institution then located at Frederickburg, Pa. He accepted with the courage of a devoted Christian worker having faith in his ability to cope successfully with decidedly unfavorable prospects. The Seminary had been founded in 1884, and in the year 1886, under the influence of Col. John H. Lock, was removed to Frederickburg. When Mr. Feel took charge the attendance had fallen to seven students. His growth since then has been due directly to his efforts, and the skilful manner in which he has handled it, and has won him commendation from all quarters. Within a year and a half the attendance had increased to sixty and the year after he became the head of the Seminary it was deemed advisable to seek new accommodations, to meet the demands of increased patronage and steady development. In the spring of 1901 Mr. Feel and Prof. Bowman came to Reading, and with two others made a visit to Selwyn Hall, to ascertain its desirability as a new location for the Seminary. A favorable report was made, and consequently a meeting of members of the East Pennsylvania Conference was called by Bishop S. C. Breckinridge to convene at the Hall, for deliberation upon the removal of the Seminary to Reading. It was decided to acquire the property for the permanent quarters of the school, and the purchase was made in July, 1902. Work was at once begun, repairing and remodeling, and Mr. Feel succeeded in securing \$20,000 from the business men of Reading to encourage the work. The Seminary was opened in Reading Sept. 15, 1902, and has been in a prosperous condition ever since. During 1906-07 the students numbered 130, the class of 1907 consisting of twenty graduates. The equipment and accommodations have been added to until they compare favorably with those of any similar institution in Pennsylvania. The location, at the corner of Thirteenth and Fourth streets, in the northeastern part of Reading is particularly beautiful, the grounds lying on the western slope of Mount Penn, commanding a fine view of the city and surrounding landscape. In the original building, formerly known as Selwyn Hall, a spacious structure of massive Colonial architecture, surrounded by stately trees are the office, library, class room, dining hall and dormitory for ladies. The other two buildings are an imposing chapel with dormitories for the men, and a fine modern classroom, which was entered in 1904, six additional years having been erected. The dormitories are spacious and comfortable, well ventilated, lighted with electricity and heated with steam, and all the buildings have been made attractive

within and without borders and additions being required to promptly under the present system which now prevails. An endowment of \$100,000, authorized during the years 1900 and 1901, has been a constant motif of the committee placed in Mr. Teel by the friends of the Seminary, and has enabled him to carry out some of his most cherished plans for the continued welfare of the school. His affairs at present are established upon a liberal and substantial basis.

The special advantages afforded by the Schuylkill Seminary as a college-preparatory school are worthy of note. The courses in Latin and Greek, as well as in other branches, fit students for not only the freshman but also the advanced classes in the best colleges in the country. The courses in history and literature are comprehensive and thorough, the laboratory is well equipped, and all the work done is of the most practical character, either as a preparation for higher study, such as an accession to general knowledge. The faculty is composed of eleven instructors, men and women of character and purpose, who are not only fitted to teach the branches of which they have made special study but also to direct the work and applications of their pupils into the most useful channels. The vice-president, Rev. Edwin D. McElroy, Ph. M., is instructor in science and the higher mathematics; he makes a specialty of botany, and has written articles on this subject. Rev. Charles B. Bowman, A. M., B. D., previously mentioned, has been associated with Mr. Teel from the beginning of his labors in the Seminary; he is a graduate of Drew Seminary and is serving as principal of the theological department and professor of Greek and theology. The department of English is in charge of Ed. L. Hart, Ph. M., and the department of music is presided over by Amy M. Young, a graduate of the Philadelphia Academy of Music.

Mr. Teel was ordained a regular minister of the Evangelical Church in 1902, and he is as successful in religious work as in educational circles. He has frequent pulpits calls, from his own and other denominations, and is also in demand as a speaker at Y. M. C. A. conferences. His constant association and contact with young people gives him steady inspiration for such work, in which he is particularly strong, and in which his personal character has proved to be a factor of inestimable value to himself. His influence is counted upon as much as the actual work which he accomplishes. He has traveled extensively in all countries, having visited thirty States in the Union, and thus has widened his knowledge of the community, meeting his work, acquiring material for new thought as well as broadening the early foundations of his labors. During the six years of his connection with the Schuylkill Seminary he has won notable honors in every department of his work, as an able manager, an efficient instructor and a devoted Christian laborer. His practical ideas have won the confidence and support of the best element in the community, while his earnest labors to bring the Seminary up to the highest standards as an educational and Christian institution have met with the universal approval of patrons and the denunciation under which criticism it is conducted. Mr. Teel is an active worker in the General Association, and he has been elected delegate to the General Conference this year (1907).

On Aug. 15, 1906, Rev. Mr. Teel was married to Miss Bessie J. Dubs, of Robertsburg, Pa., a former minister of music in the Schuylkill Seminary, located at Fredericksburg, Pa. Miss Teel was born at Liverpool, Ill., daughter of Charles and Helen (Mallory) Dubs.

RICHMOND LEIGH JONES, Esq., the subject of this biography, was born Feb. 17, 1810, and after a thorough training in the best schools of the country completed his education at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. Before entering that world-renowned institution, however, he went to South America with the United States expedition against Pizarro, visiting the islands of St. Thomas and Barbados, in the West Indies, and the principal cities of the east coast of South America, and sailing a thousand miles up the Putumayo river to Asunción, was present at

the capitulation of Lopez, which crowned the success of the expedition. After a sojourn of several years in Europe, he returned to America and entered the law office of his father as a student, and having been thoroughly qualified was admitted to the bar of Berks County, April 21, 1831. He was subsequently admitted to the Supreme court of the Commonwealth and to the Bar of Philadelphia and other counties of the State.

In his profession he has attained marked distinction, having tried and won many cases involving important principles of law which are now widely quoted as precedents, and having recently been appointed, by the Bar Association of Pennsylvania, chairman of a committee to revise the corporation laws of the State. The Reading street railway system, with its suburban adjuncts, and the electric light and gas companies, and many other industrial corporations which he represents, owe their marked success largely to the plans and ability developed by Mr. Jones in their organization and development. He is general counsel also for the United Power and Transportation Company and the Interstate Railways Company, corporations controlling over five hundred miles of street railways in Pennsylvania and the adjoining States. His services to the public, aside from business, have been equally notable, and the prosperous community in which he lives cheerfully acknowledges many substantial benefits largely due to his well-directed energy and the wisdom of his counsel. It was mainly through his efforts that the city of Reading recovered the tract of land, lost for nearly a hundred years, at the foot of Penn's Mount, now beautifully improved as the City Park and known as Fern Common, and that the free public library of the city, of which he is president, was rescued from obscurity and mortgaged placed upon an enduring foundation by liberal private contributions headed with his name, and then adopted by the public as worthy of maintenance out of the common purse.

In 1862, on the invasion of Maryland by the Confederate army, Mr. Jones enlisted, serving as a private soldier, and was present at the battle of Antietam, and in 1863 he was made captain of a company of Pennsylvania volunteers. In 1869 he was elected a member of the Legislature from the county of Berks, and was twice re-elected, and in 1868, his second term, he received his party's nomination for the speakership. His speeches on the amendments to the Constitution of the United States, then being considered, were widely read, and ranked with the best arguments upon that subject. He had little taste for politics, however, and a preference for the work of his profession induced him to retire from public life. He has since held no public office, excepting that of Commissioner at Valley Forge, to which he was appointed by Governor Pennypacker and has been reappointed by Governor Stuart.

He is a vestryman of Christ Church, Reading, and a director in many local organizations. He is also a member of the Colonial Society of Pennsylvania, Society of Colonial Wars, Sons of the Revolution, Society of the War of 1812, and Grand Army of the Republic.

On Nov. 26, 1840, he married Margaret Ellen McCarty, daughter of James McCarty, a prominent manufacturer of Reading, and Rebecca MacVeagh, his wife, and a niece of Wayne and Franklin MacVeagh. He had one daughter, now deceased, who was the wife of Nathaniel Forster, of Reading. His country residence, "Merioneth," overlooks the city of Reading from the surrounding hills.

Mr. Jones is descended from a long line of distinguished Colonial and Revolutionary ancestors on both sides of his house. His father, J. Gilman Jones, was an able lawyer and distinguished member of Congress from Berks County from 1820 to 1829, during his last term having been chairman of the committee on Ways and Means. He resigned his seat in Congress to accept the appointment of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Austria, which office he held during the trying times of the commencement of the Civil war, when our relations with foreign countries were extremely delicate. Mr. Jones's great-grandfather, Col. Benjamin



Richard H. Jones

Jones, was senior captain of the first regiment raised in Pennsylvania for the Continental army, October, 1775. He participated in the winter campaign for the relief of the army of Quebec, after the death of Montgomery, and also in many important engagements. For distinguished services he was promoted to the rank of major, and later to that of lieutenant-colonel in the Pennsylvania Line.

Mr. Jones's great-great-grandfather, David Jones, came from Merioneth, Wales, to Pennsylvania in 1721 and bought a large tract of land in Caernarvon township, where he opened and developed iron ore mines, which still bear his name.

Mr. Jones's mother was the daughter of William Rodman, of Bucks county, who was a brigade quartermaster in the army of the Revolution, and afterward a member of the Senate of Pennsylvania and of the Twelfth Congress of the United States. The Rodman family is one of the oldest in the New World, having settled in America in the early part of the seventeenth century and contributed to the Colonies many of their most distinguished citizens.

JOSEPH P. O'REILLY, contractor at Reading for upward of twenty-five years, was born at that place Aug. 27, 1862. He received his education in the city schools and at Villanova College, in Delaware county, Pa., and upon quitting school learned the trade of stone-cutter under Christian Eben, who had been engaged in the business for many years at Reading. He continued with Mr. Eben for four years, and then engaged in the business for himself for about a year, when he started contracting in the construction of public works of various kinds. This was in 1882, and since then he has been prominently and successfully engaged in taking city and county contracts for roads, culverts, sewers and bridges. Among the large iron bridges spanning the Schuylkill river which are of his construction may be mentioned the "Exeter Bridge," the "Reading and South Western Street Railway Bridge," the "Schuylkill Avenue Bridge," the "Cross Keys Bridge" (above Tuckerton), and the "Berne Bridge" (above Shoemakersville).

Mr. O'Reilly married Clara A. Tea (daughter of Samuel H. Tea and Emily E. Hyneman, his wife, of Reading), and they have three children: James, Gerald and Claire.

Mr. O'Reilly's father was Owen O'Reilly, also a large contractor in the construction of public works at Reading for thirty years. In 1856 he put up the "Askew Bridge" for the Lebanon Valley Railroad (crossing Sixth at Woodward), which was then regarded as a remarkable piece of work, and is still admired by engineers and contractors. He was born in 1815 at Patrickstown, County Meath, Ireland, and emigrated to America in 1838, locating at Reading. He died in 1902. He married Elizabeth B. Felix, daughter of Anthony Felix, of Reading, and they had nine children: Agnes C., a sister of charity for forty years, now at Emmitsburg, Md.; Sallie B., a sister of charity for thirty years, now at Washington, D. C.; Eugene P., m. to Helena Rauen; Simon P., m. to Sallie G. Rohr; Mary B., who died in 1902, aged forty-one years; Joseph P., above; and three—James, Ann and William—who died in infancy.

His grandfather was James O'Reilly, of County Meath, Ireland, born in 1771, died in 1851. He m. Bridget Conathy, of the same county, born in 1773, died in 1848. They had fourteen sons, among them Owen. And his great-grandfather, also named James, had seven sons, among them the said James. His mother's father was Anthony Felix, born in 1781, died in 1863; m. to Catherine Martin, born in 1783, died in 1861. Her grandfather was Nicholas Felix, born in 1731, died in 1813. He was enlisted in the Revolution, with the company of Capt. Charles Gobin, in Thier's Battalion, which was engaged in the battle of Camden on Aug. 16, 1780. He emigrated from Germany in 1751.

Mr. O'Reilly's wife's father, Samuel Hains Tea, was a lineal descendant of Richard Tea, a surveyor of Hereford township before the Revolution, and an ironmaster during

the Revolution. In 1776 he was elected to officiate as one of the Supreme Executive Councilors of the State, but he declined to serve, doubtless because he was identified with the Friends, who opposed the war.

OSCAR B. HERBEIN, M. D., physician at Strausstown, has taken his father's place in that community, where the name has been identified with the practice of medicine for over forty years. The family is one of long standing in Bern township, this county, where it is still well represented.

One Peter Herbein in 1734 became the owner of 235 acres of fine land located along the Schuylkill, adjoining the lands of Henry Reeser, another early settler. He had two sons, Abraham and John, whose grandsons, John, Thomas and William Herbein, have represented the family there in recent years. Along the Schuylkill also are the old Herbein quarries, first opened by one William Herbein in 1835, at what is now Rickenbach Station. Near that station were also located the Herbein mill and distillery, where Abraham Herbein erected a small distillery about eighty years ago. Later the property passed into the hands of Reuben Herbein, who built the mill and distillery which he operated successfully for some years. The Herbeins were among the first families associated with the Eplers in the organization of what has since been known as the Epler Church (Lutheran and Reformed) in Bern township, one William Herbein being a member of the building committee.

John Herbein, grandfather of Dr. Oscar B. Herbein, lived in Bern township, where he followed farming, owning land there. He is buried at Epler Church. He was twice married, first to Mary Shearer, by whom he had four sons, Gideon, Jonathan, Isaac S. and David (twins), all now deceased. By his second wife he had three sons, William, Adam (now living at East Greenville, Pa.) and Daniel, of Allentown.

Isaac S. Herbein, M. D., father of Dr. Oscar B. Herbein, was born in 1835, and received his early education in the public schools of Bern township. He began to read medicine with Dr. James Y. Shearer, of Sinking Spring, Berks county, after which he was in the grocery business at Philadelphia with George A. Leimbach for two years, meantime continuing his professional studies at the Jefferson Medical College. He graduated from that institution in 1865, and in 1866 located in practice at Strausstown, where he remained to the close of his life. He built up a large practice, and was actively engaged in the duties of his profession until he died, Nov. 11, 1905, at the age of seventy years. Dr. Herbein is buried at the Zion's (Blue Mountain) Church. The Doctor was a man of active mind and progressive ideas, and took considerable interest in the life of the community in which he was an important figure for so many years. He served eight years as justice of the peace, and for twelve years was a school director. In political faith he was a Democrat.

Dr. Herbein married Catharine G. Batteiger, born Jan. 12, 1834, daughter of Jacob and Charlotte (Goodman) Batteiger, of Upper Tulpehocken township. Mrs. Herbein now makes her home with her son. She had two children: Deborah, who married George J. Kurr and died May 8, 1890; and Oscar B.

Oscar B. Herbein was born Feb. 7, 1869, received his early education in the township schools, and later attended the Keystone State Normal School at Kutztown and the Brunner Business Academy. He taught school in 1886-87-88-89, one term in Upper Tulpehocken township and two terms in Spring township, before entering the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, where he took his medical course. Graduating in 1896, he at once commenced practice with his father at Strausstown, where he has remained to the present. He enjoys high standing among his brother practitioners as well as with the people of his community, and attends faithfully to a large practice. Dr. Herbein is a member of the Berks County Medical Society.

On May 24, 1890, Dr. Herbein was married to Miss Lizzie S. Keim, daughter of Abraham and Sarah (Mengel) Keim. They have no children. The Doctor is particularly active

in local fraternal societies, belonging to Williamson Lodge, No. 307, F. & A. M.; to Lodge No. 77, I. O. O. F., at Strasstown, of which he has been secretary for six years; to Camp No. 664, U. O. S. of A., which he organized in 1893 and of which he is a past president; and to Charlotte Lodge, Daughters of Rebekah. He was one of the organizers and early directors of the Blue Mountain Electrical Company, of which he is now serving as vice-president. He is a Democrat in politics, and an active worker in the local ranks of the party. In religious matters he is identified with the Reformed members of the Zion's (Blue Mountain) Church.

LEVI B. PAXSON, one of the most widely known mechanical engineers and long in the service of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company, died at his home, No. 218 North Sixth street, Reading, April 12, 1909. He was born in Chester county, Pa., March 22, 1827, of mixed English and German descent. His father's ancestors were English Quakers, while his mother was of German origin. He was married in 1851 to Miss Mary A. F. Kraft, of Reading, Pa., and there were six children born to them, four of whom, three daughters and one son, lived to reach adult age.

Mr. Paxson entered the service of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company as a brakeman on a coal train in October, 1847. In February, 1848, he was promoted to be fireman on a coal train engine, and after firing about two years was given an engine to run, and continued to serve as a locomotive engineer until the summer of 1852, when he arranged with the Company to go into the Reading Machine Shops as an apprentice to the machinist's trade for a term of four years. A short time before the expiration of this term, he was taken from the shops and given the position of wreck master, and later was assigned the additional duty of foreman of the Reading Round House. In February, 1864, he was appointed master machinist at Port Richmond, Philadelphia, and in December, 1866, was made superintendent of the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain Railroad with office at Mahanoy Plane. In February, 1871, he was transferred to Reading, with title of master machinist in charge of the shops of the system. In January, 1873, he was appointed engineer of machinery, and retained the position until February 29, 1886 at which date he left the services of the Company for a time. On July 1, 1888, he was appointed acting superintendent of motive power and rolling stock equipment, and the following year was given the full title, and he retained that position until Aug. 1, 1899, when he assumed the position of consulting mechanical engineer, a place specially created for him.

B. MORRIS STRAUSS. Strauss is the name of one of the old and honored families in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, whose members in their different generations have been prominent in the public life of their local communities, and several of wider fame throughout the State and nation. Thrift seems to have followed the history of the family since its first coming to America from the Fatherland, back in the eighteenth century, and many of its members have been men of wealth and influence in the financial world. This review has chiefly to do with the gentleman whose name is mentioned above, but it is entirely proper to mention first some of the more salient points in the family history.

On Sept. 26, 1732, there landed in the city of Philadelphia from Wurttemberg, Germany, two brothers of the name of Strauss, Albrecht and John Philip. They were mere boys, the elder, (1) Albrecht, swearing in his oath of allegiance, then necessary to take on landing, that he was but twenty, while (2a) John Philip left a record in his family Bible that he was born on Sept. 13, 1713. They soon appeared in Berks county, Pa., where in the vicinity of what is now Bernville they each took up large tracts of land, a part of the original acres still being held by members of the present generation. They were both Lutherans, so that then later, more, or, the births of their children, and indeed the whole Strauss family history, became a part of the records of that church.

Albrecht Strauss, the elder of the brothers, was the great-great-grandfather of B. Morris Strauss. He took up a tract of 350 acres, upon which he settled and reared a large family, eleven children in all, their mother, whom he married in 1734, being Anna Margaret Zerbe, who came with her father, Martin Zerbe, from Schoharie, New York, in 1723. The children were as follows: (1) Maria Barbara, born Nov. 16, 1735, m. June 2, 1754, John Kloss (now Kloss), born in Brodtkelch, Hunsau, Germany, Dec. 6, 1723, son of Thomas and Margaret Kloss, with whom he came to America in 1738. They resided a little north of Reading and were the parents of ten children, six of whom survived and left issue, viz.: Maria Elizabeth, m. to Abraham Schneider; Maria Barbara, m. to John Adam Spengler; Maria Christina, m. to Conrad Schoep (Shepp); Maria Magdalena, m. to Philip Huxett; Maria Catharine, m. to William Dichtm; and Jacob—all leaving numerous descendants. (2) John Jacob Strauss, born May 5, 1737, m. Elizabeth Brecht, Aug. 21, 1759. They lived on a part of the homestead acres north of Bernville and became the parents of nine children, viz.: Albrecht, who remained on the homestead; John, who settled near Orwigsburg, Schuylkill county; David; Elizabeth; Philip; Jacob; Samuel; Michael, and Catharine. This branch also became very numerous. (3) Maria Elizabeth (twin to John Jacob), born May 5, 1737, m. John Daniel Madery, May 4, 1760. So far as known, three children were born to them, viz.: Maria Eva Rosina, John Thomas and Michael. (4) Anna Elizabeth was born March 25, 1739. (5) John Casper, born Aug. 5, 1741, died in infancy. (6) Maria Eva Rosina, born Nov. 6, 1742, m. Christopher Schaber, Nov. 9, 1762. The records of the Old Red Church, near Orwigsburg, Pa., show the baptism of five of their children, viz.: Maria Elizabeth, March 29, 1771; John, Oct. 4, 1772; John Philip, Feb. 9, 1775; Eva Rosina, April 4, 1779, and Daniel, March 4, 1781. (7) Maria Catharine, born March 6, 1745, m. John Long, Nov. 9, 1763, and their son, John Jacob, was born Aug. 7, 1763. (8) John Philip, born Jan. 4, 1748, m. Sevilla, daughter of Benedict and Maria Salome Kepner, April 24, 1771. They moved to Cumberland (now Juniata) county, Pa., before the Revolution, purchasing 400 acres of land along the Juniata river, the homestead residence being at Mexico Station on the Pennsylvania Railroad. They had eight children, viz.: John; Jacob, born Oct. 5, 1775, who walked out to Ohio in 1779 and settled in Pickaway county, and left numerous and influential descendants; Polly; Betsey; Catharine; David, one of whose descendants, Philip, still owns the ancestral homestead; Susannah, and Sidney. (9) Maria Christina was born July 26, 1751. (10) Maria Susanna, born Oct. 5, 1753, m. Benjamin Kepner, May 24, 1774, and they also resided in the Juniata Valley, near Mexico. (11) John Samuel.

Albrecht Strauss was a prominent man of the locality during his time; and his penmanship denoted that he was an educated man. He was naturalized by the "Suprem Court" of the Province on Sept. 24, 1755, the certificate thereof now being in the possession of our subject. He died a short time previous to May 7, 1787, that being the date of the filing of his administration papers. His wife died about the same time.

(1a) John Philip Strauss, the younger of the emigrant brothers, took up about 250 acres of land, including (1908) Rev. Mr. Trexler's farm and the tract of Adam W. Strauss. On Feb. 28, 1741, he married Anna Margaret Reimer. He died shortly before May 28, 1792 (the date of the probate of his will). His wife is mentioned in his will and must then have been still living. Their nine children were: (1) Anna Magdalena, born Dec. 21, 1741, m. John George Thomas, born July 1, 1746, son of John and Barbara Long. Their children were: John, Anna Margaret, Maria Catharine, Christian, Maria Elizabeth, John Philip, Jacob, Thomas and Daniel. She died April 5, 1823; and he, May 20, 1825. (2) Anna Elizabeth, born Sept. 18, 1746, m. George Daniel Gabel, Nov. 26, 1776. They had children: (3) Maria Christina, born Feb. 29, 1749, m. on June 3, 1773, Christian Zerbe, born Dec. 25, 1750, son of John and Catharine Zerbe. They moved to White Deer township,

Northumberland (now Union) county, Pa. They had a family of eleven children: John George, John, Maria Catharine, Susanna, Jacob, Maria Christina, Henry, Mary Salome, Elizabeth, Anna Maria and Samuel. (4) Casper, born Jan. 27, 1751, married Elizabeth Schreck. They left issue, viz.: John (Dec. 2, 1780-April 7, 1876), Ludwig, Benjamin, Matilda, Susanna, and Anna Maria. (5) Maria Catharine was born Dec. 22, 1752. (6) John Philip, born Nov. 9, 1754, m. Susanna Wenrich, Sept. 23, 1782. He obtained the homestead and died there July 20, 1816. Their children so far as known were: John, Susanna, Joseph, Philip (Feb. 1, 1790-May 12, 1855), Daniel, Elizabeth, Sybilla, Anna Margaret and Mary Magdalena. (7) John Jacob, born May 7, 1757, m. Barbara Zerbe, June 14, 1785. He died Oct. 22, 1822, his wife probably preceding him in death as she is not mentioned in his will. They had the following children so far as known: Catharine, Barbara, Daniel, Magdalena, Peter, Sarah, Adam and Susanna. (8) Christian, born June 16, 1760, m. Aug. 4, 1794, Catharine, daughter of Joseph Schneider. They had as far as known two children, Elizabeth and Catharine. (9) John Matthias, born April 16, 1762, m. (first) Magdalena Schneider, on May 25, 1790. After the death of his wife he m. (second), Sept. 10, 1797, Frederica Gottle. He died March 4, 1819, and his wife survived him.

(II) John Samuel Strauss, youngest child of Albrecht and great-grandfather of B. Morris, was born May 13, 1756. On Nov. 10, 1784, he married Catharine Elizabeth (born May 10, 1758), daughter of Balthaser and Maria Appalonia Umbenhauer, the owner of a large tract of land including the site of Bernville, Pa. He became the owner of the homestead by purchase on Aug. 3, 1784, whereon they resided all their life. He, as also did his cousin, John Philip, son of Philip, served actively in the Revolutionary struggle, and was an influential and useful citizen of his locality. He died March 25, 1835, his wife having preceded him, Dec. 16, 1821. They had a family of thirteen children, viz.: John, the founder of Strausstown; Maria Magdalena, m. to Tobias Henne; John Philip (Sept. 26, 1784-Feb. 12, 1865); Samuel; Johanna, m. to Samuel Greim; John Jacob (Nov. 23, 1788-Nov. 9, 1877); Elizabeth Strauss (Feb. 12, 1790-Aug. 19, 1875), m. to Elias Redkey; Susanna; Joseph; John William (Oct. 26, 1795-Oct. 13, 1885); Catharine; Benjamin (April 30, 1800-Dec. 14, 1886); and Jonathan. This family was noted for their longevity.

(III) Benjamin Strauss, son of John Samuel, was born on the old homestead April 30, 1800, and at its division by John Samuel, his father, before his death, he was allotted a share thereof. He married on Dec. 12, 1829, Rebecca, daughter of Jacob and Juliana (Shelhammer) Long, born April 30, 1811. In his youth he lived in Virginia for some time. He returned to his native place and followed the trade of a tailor. He afterward purchased a large farm (the dwelling-house on which place, a large, commodious and substantial one and one-half story log building, was known in Colonial times as "Casper Snavely's Indian Fort," where a posse of soldiers were regularly stationed to protect the settlers during that perilous period) adjoining now Meckville, Bethel township, Pa., on which he resided the rest of his lifetime. His wife died Dec. 3, 1861. They had two sons, Percival Long and Joel.

(IV) Percival Long Strauss was the eldest son of Benjamin, and is now living retired in Reading after an active life in the mercantile, building and lumber business. His wife, Malinda, who died on April 16, 1896, was the daughter of Jacob and Mary Ann (Batdorf) Smith, farmers of Bethel township. They were both descendants of the earliest settlers, his ancestors Smith, Eisenhauer, Fetterhoff and Heberling having been prominent at and during the making of the first white settlements in Bethel, while her ancestors Batdorf and Zeller came from Schoharie, New York, in 1723, and were of the leaders in the making of the first settlement at Tulpehocken. To Percival L. and Malinda (Smith) Strauss were born twelve children: Harry, who died aged ten years; Sophia, who died at thirty-five; J. Franklin, a Lebanon county farmer and contractor; Mary Ann and Emma Rebecca, at home; John, of Kansas City, Mo.; James, a hotel-keeper, Reading; Lavina, wife

of Dr. Frank W. Bucks, Reading; William, a merchant at Rehrersburg, Berks county; Elizabeth, wife of George Schreiner, at the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia; Percival S., a graduate of the West Chester State Normal School and the University of Pennsylvania, and now a teacher in the Philadelphia high school; and B. Morris. These children are all occupying responsible positions in life and are all living up to the record made by former generations.

(V) B. Morris Strauss was born on the family homestead in Bethel township, Sept. 20, 1855. He passed the early part of his boyhood on the home farm, securing the rudiments of his education in the common schools. Later he attended the Swatara Institute at Jonestown, and afterward the Millersville State Normal School. He finished his literary education at Palatinate College, Myerstown; and taught school for a while afterward. Having decided on the law as a profession, he now took up its study with John Benson as his preceptor and on May 26, 1880, was admitted to the Lebanon County Bar. His admission to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania followed in 1885, and to the Supreme Court of the United States, Oct. 11, 1897. He became a member of the Berks County Bar in 1898. He is also admitted to practice in the Superior Court of the State. Mr. Strauss lived and practised his profession with success at Lebanon, where he was prominent in local affairs, having served a term as clerk of the water board of that city, and then located at Reading, where he has since maintained offices at No. 30 North Sixth street.

Mr. Strauss has been a lifelong Democrat, and takes an active interest in the political life of the city, county and State. He is a member of the Hope Lutheran Church, and is interested in several societies which have for their object the preservation of family, county and national history. He is thus a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Berks County and the Lebanon County Historical Societies and the Pennsylvania German Society. In April, 1903, he with several others started a movement among the descendants of the two original emigrants, Albrecht and John Philip Strauss, to interest all the members of the family in a yearly reunion. All the meetings have proved a source of great pleasure to all and are always largely attended, the latest one having been held at Strausstown, founded by John Strauss, a grand-uncle of our subject. From the number of the members that have been gathered it is safe to estimate that the descendants of these two early emigrants number from 8,000 to 10,000, most numerous found in Berks and Schuylkill counties, yet settled in almost every State of the Union.

Mr. Strauss married (second) Miss Hannah S., daughter of Elwood S. and Sarah R. Layton, and they are the parents of one daughter, Anna Margaret.

ISAAC G. TREAT, one of the well-known citizens of Reading, Pa., who is filling the responsible position of superintendent of the Reading Hardware Company, was born in Lycoming county, Pa., Sept. 22, 1841, son of Henry and Elizabeth (Ludwig) Treat.

Christian Treat, grandfather of Isaac G., was a well-known man of Berks county, Pa. He was of English descent, his father coming from England at an early date. He married Catharine Glass (or Glase), and they had children as follows: John, who lived and died at Milton, Pa., m. Rebecca Slough; Christian, who lived and died in Robeson township, m. Jestina Slough, a sister of Rebecca; Betsy m. John Homan; Polly m. John Moore; Catharine m. Fred Foreman, the grandfather of Harry Foreman, who was burned in the Boyertown fire in 1908 with his wife, two daughters and his sister, Sophia Foreman; Susanna m. Henry Hahn, and died in Robeson township, the mother of John, Mary, Catharine, David, Hannah, Henry, Isaac, Elhanan, Susanna, Isaiah and Samuel; Henry was father of Isaac G.; Isaac died at Selinsgrove; Abraham m. Lovina Trostle, and died in Reading; Joseph died in Philadelphia; Peter died in Reading; Christian, Treat, the father, died at York, Pa., and after his death his wife married (second) Philip Hartz. She died in Reading.

Henry Treat was born in Robeson township, Berks county, and received his education in the public schools. Early in life he was employed about the iron furnaces and learned the iron-making business, which he followed for the balance of his life, dying in 1851. He is interred in the old Lutheran cemetery at the corner of Sixth and Washington streets. Henry Treat married in 1833, Elizabeth Ludwig, daughter of Henry Ludwig, and to this union were born ten children, seven of whom grew to maturity, as follows: Mary m. Jacob Shadle, deceased; John L., deceased, was a prominent lumberman of Williamsport, Pa.; Sarah m. Samuel Proseius, deceased; Isaac G.; Henry is a farmer of New York; Elizabeth m. James K. P. Robbins, of Williamsport; and Annie m. an Allen, of Hulecomb, N. Y. In 1854 Mrs. Treat married (second) Peter Ranch, of Clinton county, Pa. She was a member of the M. E. Church, and died March 10, 1906, aged ninety years.

Isaac G. Treat received his education in the schools of Union county, the University at Lewisburg (now Bucknell), and the Union Seminary at New Berlin. He engaged in farm work until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company A, 131st Pa. V. I., Capt. Jacob M. Moyer, Colonel Allabach, and served nine months, being honorably discharged in 1863. He re-enlisted in Company E, 51st Regiment, Col. John F. Hartman, and served gallantly until August, 1865, when he was honorably discharged on General Orders from the War department. Mr. Treat, after one month's rest, took a course at Clark & Nelson's Commercial College, and then located in Reading permanently, accepting a position with Philip Albright, proprietor of a local express business, and he remained with this firm until October, 1866, when he engaged with the Reading Hardware Company. Being industrious and ambitious, Mr. Treat soon became familiar with the work of every department of the concern, and his ability being recognized by his employers, he was rapidly promoted from position to position, until in 1873 he was made superintendent of the company, which is one of the largest of its kind in the United States. A self-made man in all that the word implies, Mr. Treat has been the architect of his own fortune, and well deserves the success that has been his.

Mr. Treat was married in 1868, to Miss Emma Deysher, daughter of Daniel Deysher, of Oley township, Berks county, Pa., and three children have been born to this union: Daniel G., employed by the Reading Hardware Company; Henry E., who died in 1898, aged twenty-six years; and Howard, employed by the Reading Hardware Company. Mr. Treat is a member of St. Paul's Memorial Reformed Church, and for a number of years has been deacon and elder.

SAMUEL DAVIES, proprietor of the Industrial Foundry and Machine Works, of Reading, comes of Welsh ancestry, and is in the third generation from the founder of the family in America, one Samuel Davies.

Samuel Davies was born in Newbridge, Wales, in 1737. He changed his name from Davis to Davies, holding that such was the correct Welsh spelling, and all of his kin have retained the added letter ever since. About 1764 Samuel Davies sailed for America, came to Berks county and settled in Reading, then a small village, where he opened a shoe shop and store combined. In 1773 he married his wife, Elizabeth, who was of German parentage. With the exception of four years in Bradford, Chester Co., Pa., their married life was spent wholly in Reading, and there they died, he in 1821, aged eighty-four, and she some years later. They were members of the Quaker sect. Their children were: (1) Mary, born in 1774, m. a Mr. Miller. (2) Lydia, born July 26, 1775, m. but had no family. (3) Rebecca, born June 12, 1777, m. Thomas Berger. (4) Joseph, born Jan. 1, 1779, in early life was a tanner in Chester county. He m. in 1805, Miss Lydia Kennedy, of West Bradford township, Chester county, and a family of eleven children was born to them. Mrs. Lydia Davies died Nov. 30, 1819, aged forty-one years, three months and twenty days. Some seven years later Joseph Davies

decided to go West, and in the summer of 1826 he traveled on foot to Parke county, Ind., a distance of nearly one thousand miles. He died July 5, 1827. (5) Benjamin was the father of Samuel Davies. (6) Samuel, born Jan. 14, 1783, m. Aug. 31, 1815, in Chester county, Miss Sarah Harry. He went west to Indiana, and there died Dec. 14, 1862. His wife died Jan. 28, 1857, leaving four sons, Jesse, Samuel, L. was and Joseph. (7) Jacob, born June 27, 1786, became the father of two daughters, both now deceased. (8) Isaac, born April 23, 1789, was known as the strongest man of Eastern Pennsylvania. He left no family. (9) Joshua born Aug. 17, 1791, became a well known teacher in Reading, and died Feb. 22, 1819. His wife Deborah was born Feb. 27, 1793, and died Feb. 8, 1864, leaving an only daughter, Sarah. (10) Elizabeth, born Dec. 8, 1793, left no descendants.

Benjamin Davies was born March 17, 1781, and on Jan. 27, 1805, was married to Miss Mary Williams. Eight children were born to them, all deceased except the youngest. (1) Abner, born Nov. 6, 1808, m. and died, leaving three children, William, Lenora and Myers. (2) Lydia died in childhood. (3) Elizabeth. (4) Samuel, and (5) Anne died in early life. (6) Mary W., born Sept. 10, 1816, m. Charles Dehart, and had children, William, Elizabeth, David, Mary, Edward, Charles and Emma. (7) Lydia W. was a teacher of Berks county, and died unmarried at the age of seventy. (8) Benjamin, Jr., m. and had four children, Howard, Anna, Mary and Jessica. The mother of this family died, and on Feb. 16, 1828, Mr. Davies m. (second) Miss Mary Martin. By this union there were four children: Samuel is mentioned below; Elizabeth, born Sept. 26, 1840, m. Herman Dersch, and had ten children, of whom five are living—John, Gertrude, George, Rebecca and Helen; Rebecca, born Aug. 31, 1843, m. William Hutchinson, and had nine children, of whom William, Ruth, Elizabeth and Rebecca are living (Mr. Hutchinson enlisted Aug. 10, 1861, in Company H, 88th Pa. V. I., was wounded in the right thigh during the second battle of Bull Run, Aug. 30, 1862, was taken prisoner before Petersburg, and held in Libby Prison until mustered out March 30, 1865); Joseph, born July 2, 1846, became a machinist by trade and m. Miss Margaret Hale, and of their ten children there are living, Mary, Anna, Katherine, Rebecca and Martha Nora.

Benjamin Davies, father of this large family, became a prominent citizen in Reading. Beginning in the shoe business, he was for some time established on Penn street between Fourth and Fifth. When the Farmers National Bank was opened, Mr. Davies opened the books and was made its first bookkeeper, and later he served for a time as its cashier, maintaining his connection with the institution for a period of forty years. This fact alone bespeaks his place in the business world of Reading, while his personality made him very popular socially. In religion he was a strict observer of the customs of the Friends. He died in 1854, in his seventy-fourth year, while his wife survived him until 1888, when she died aged eighty-eight, the greatest age attained by any member of the Davies family.

Samuel Davies was born in Reading, May 4, 1829, and until he was fifteen years old he attended the public schools. He then entered the Philadelphia & Reading railroad shops, in order to become a machinist, and he remained there four years. He next spent about a year and a half in the lathe department of the Scott foundry, and afterward was employed at various places, including Lebanon, Pittsburg and Wheeling. Returning to Reading, he was engaged at the Johnson foundry and machine shop when the war broke out. He enlisted in the State service in April, 1861, and on June 4, 1861, he enlisted in the United States service under Capt. William Briner, Company D, 3d Pa. R. V. C. He served all through the war in the Army of the Potomac, was in a number of hard fought battles, like the Seven Days Fight around Richmond, second Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg, and was mustered out at Philadelphia in the fall of 1864. The government gave him employment in Nashville, and Mr. Davies spent some time in that city,

before going back to Reading. There he again worked as a machinist for the railroad until 1881, but in that year he went into business for himself.

The concern of which Mr. Davies is now sole proprietor has passed through various phases of existence. Originally, in 1881, the firm name was Miller, Printz & Co., and the company did a foundry and machine business. A few years later it became Miller, Printz & Co., and then Davies, Printz & Co., and finally in 1901 Mr. Davies took entire control of the plant. It is now known as the Industrial Foundry and Machine Works, and is located at Nos. 290-331 South Ninth street. There are about twenty hands employed, and the trade, though largely a local one, is of good volume.

On Dec. 13, 1866, Mr. Davies married Miss Margaret Birch, daughter of the late Dr. Solomon Birch. Five children were born to them, as follows: Mary Elizabeth died at the age of two years; Harry and William are both mechanics employed with their father; Paulah, who was graduated from the Reading high school in the class of 1895, taught in that city a few years and then married Joseph H. Skilton, a resident of Philadelphia; and Margaret, of the class of 1900 in the Reading high school, is now teaching at the Pear and Burtonwood school. Mr. Davies served during the war in Company D, 32d Pa. V. L., seeing much active service, and is now a member of G. A. R. Post No. 16, of which he is past commander. He also belongs to the Union Veteran Legion, and holds the official rank of past colonel. In politics he is a Republican.

DR. ABRAHAM NESTER FRETZ, who for over thirty-four years has been engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery at Fleetwood, Berks county, was born Aug. 7, 1839, in Hereford township, son of Daniel Fretz.

Daniel Fretz was born in Hereford township in 1805, was reared to agricultural pursuits and followed farming in the vicinity of his birth until his death, in 1880. He married Esther Nester, of Pike township, near Hill Church, and to this union were born six children: Abraham N.; Lewis, m. to Lavana Runolo; Anne, who died young; Irwin, m. to Mary March; and Priscilla and Anne, who both died young.

Dr. Abraham N. Fretz's early education was secured in the public schools, and after a thorough preparation at Mt. Pleasant Seminary at Boyertown, he entered the University of Pennsylvania and graduated from the Medical Department in 1863. The country then being in the midst of the Civil war, he enlisted at Washington, D. C., and, receiving the appointment of acting assistant surgeon, was detailed to perform hospital service at Newport News and vicinity until 1866. Then, under the Reconstruction Act, Gen. John H. Schofield appointed him president of the board of registration, with headquarters at City Point, Va., and he filled this responsible position in the most satisfactory manner until the fall of 1869.

While at the latter place Dr. Fretz identified himself with the affairs of Prince George county, and the electors of that district elected him as one of the Assemblymen. There being two parties in that State, viz., the Radical Republicans and the Liberal Republicans, he was chosen on the ticket of the latter, and served in this honorable position during the years 1869, 1870 and 1871. He then returned to Pennsylvania and took an additional course of medical lectures in the University for a year, after which he established himself in medical practice at Linfield, Montgomery county, and was successfully engaged at that place until his removal, in 1875, to Fleetwood, Berks county, where he has been in active practice ever since.

Dr. Fretz, upon locating at Fleetwood, took an active interest in educational affairs and quite naturally his fellow-citizens selected him to be a school director, and he served as such from 1877 to 1884. In 1885 he was elected as one of the justices of the peace of this borough, and he has been serving in this position by re-election until the present time, showing the high appreciation of the community in his medical integrity. In politics he has been a Democrat, and upon settling in the county he identified himself with its political affairs, as well as with those of the State and

nation. He frequently represented the borough in conventions, and in the county conventions of 1887 and 1902 he officiated as chairman.

Dr. Fretz was married in 1864 to Emma Roberston, of Philadelphia, daughter of Thomas Robertson, and to this union, one son, Thomas, has been born.

Thomas Fretz was born in 1866 at Philadelphia, attended the schools of Fleetwood, and after a preparatory course at the Keystone State Normal School, he attended Lafayette College, from which he was graduated in 1890. He continued the higher branches of study at Princeton University, from which he was graduated in 1893. In 1900 he was elected principal of the grammar schools at Newark, N. J., and he filled this responsible position in the most satisfactory manner until 1907, when he was appointed to a similar position in New York City, which he still holds. He was married to Mary Madeira, daughter of John H. Madeira, of Blandon, and one daughter, Emily, was born to this union. Mrs. Fretz died in 1893.

NEVIN M. DAVIS, a civil engineer ranking deservedly high in his profession, came of a family long established in York county, and his death, April 12, 1909, was deeply deplored. He was a son of the Rev. William F. P. and Ellen E. (Myers) Davis.

The Rev. William F. P. Davis was a minister of the Reformed Church. He lived to the age of only fifty-two years, passing away in 1883. At the time of his death he had a charge in Berks county that embraced Wernersville (Ham's Church), Sinkin's Spring's, Kissinger's and Yocum's Churches. He married Ellen F., daughter of Benjamin Myers, a retired business man of York and founder of the Farmers Insurance Company, of that place. The children born to this marriage were as follows: William S., a graduate of Lehigh University, and now general manager of the Lebanon Textile Works; Louisa Bell, now Mrs. Charles Wilson, of Glen Olden, Pa.; Paul Benjamin, also a Lehigh University man, assistant city engineer of Reading from 1903 to 1909; John Henry, a clerk in the Second National Bank; Martha, at home; and Nevin M.

Nevin M. Davis was born Aug. 28, 1864, in New Oxford, Adams county, where his father had his last charge. After leaving school he entered Franklin and Marshall College, and was graduated in 1885. The first position he secured was with the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Co. as civil engineer, and he was with the Company for seven years. During this time he was assistant engineer in the construction of the Alentown Terminal and the Philadelphia, Harrisburg & Pottsville Terminal Railways. Another work with which he was concerned was the Port Reading Railway from Bondbrook, N. J., to Port Reading. Mr. Davis also held the position of assistant engineer for the Central New England and Western Railway, with headquarters at Hartford, Conn., and had charge of the maintenance of the famous Bongskeepsie Bridge. In 1892 he gave up his position with the railroad and opened an office on his own account, taking engineering contracts. He was at first associated with the firm of Davis, Rice, but in 1898 that was dissolved and Mr. Davis had his office alone in the Wanner Building, Reed and Court streets. He was extremely proficient in his profession, and his work was always of the highest class. Mr. Davis was also connected with various electric railways, and directed the engineering work on the Reading & Womelsdorf Electric Railway. He was chief engineer of the Safe Harbor Steam Railway in Lancaster county.

Mr. Davis was married Jan. 14, 1893, to Elizabeth Feg Stein, daughter of Jacob Stein and the late Ellen Elizabeth Stein, of Allentown, where Mr. Stein was a retired farmer. Three children were born to them, but Elizabeth, the second, died in infancy. The other two are Frederick Stein and Robert Stein, both in school. Mr. and Mrs. Davis belong to St. Paul's Reformed Church.

Mr. Davis had for many years taken part in the Masonic fraternity, and is connected with various other organizations, in most of which he has been very active and held important offices. He is Past Master of Reading Lodge,

No. 349, F. & A. M.; Past High Priest, and at present secretary of Reading Chapter, No. 152, R. A. M.; Past Eminent Commander of De Molay Commandery, No. 9, K. T.; Past Thrice Illustrious Grand Master of Allen Council, No. 23, R. & S. M.; member of Harrisburg Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Masons, 32d degree; and a charter member of Kajah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., in which he served as Oriental Guide for nine years. Mr. Davis also represented the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana, to the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania.

In politics Mr. Davis was an ardent Democrat, serving at the time of his death as representative of the Sixteenth ward on the school board. He served as county surveyor for three years. He was a member of the Americus Club, the Union Fire Company No. 13 (since its organization) and had held most of the offices in it. He was president of the Firemen's Union in 1906 and 1907, and a member of the Firemen's Relief Association as delegate from his company to the organization at large. In whatever capacity, he always rendered most valued and efficient service.

The most important professional and political position held by Mr. Davis was that of engineer to the county commissioners of Berks county in 1906-07-08, during which time he designed and introduced into Berks county bridges of reinforced concrete. The most noted of these bridges is the one across the Schuylkill river at Dauberville, consisting of four seventy-five-foot spans of reinforced concrete, and a total length of four hundred feet. This is considered one of the most artistic structures in Eastern Pennsylvania, and Mr. Davis was highly complimented by his profession and by the public in general for the many handsome structures he designed and erected, which will ever be monuments to his memory.

ABNER KEELEY STAUFFER, for many years one of the prominent members of the Berks County Bar, was a descendant of Henry Stauffer (a son of the imperial Hohen-Staufen family of Germany), who came to America from Rhenish Germany early in the eighteenth century. Mr. Stauffer was born at Boyertown, Berks Co., Pa., Oct. 11, 1836, son of John and Elizabeth (Keeley) Stauffer.

Judge John Stauffer was born July 4, 1792, and died Nov. 28, 1851. He served as county surveyor, and was later honored with election to the State Legislature, in which he served in 1829-30. From 1840 to 1870 he served as associate judge of Berks county, and so popular was he, and so satisfactory were his actions, that he was tendered the Democratic nomination for Congress, which was equivalent to an election in Berks county. But because of failing health he was obliged to decline the honor, and he died in 1854, just four years after his term as judge had expired. To his home at Boyertown came all the people to have their disputes adjusted, his reputation as a wise, considerate judge having extended far and wide, and his fame as a counselor being scarcely equalled in the county.

Judge Stauffer married Elizabeth Keeley, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Keeley, the former a prominent farmer in Douglass township. Mrs. Stauffer was born Oct. 1, 1798, and died Dec. 30, 1857. She was the mother of ten children, five sons and five daughters, of whom two survive, viz.: Elizabeth, widow of Abraham G. Schwenk, of Schwenkville, Montgomery Co., Pa., a settlement founded by the father of Mr. Schwenk, who at one time owned nearly all the land in that neighborhood; and Amanda, widow of Rev. Abraham E. Dechant, of Pennsburg, a minister of the Reformed Church, who was born in Montgomery county Jan. 26, 1823, graduated at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, and at the Reformed Theological Seminary of that city.

Abner K. Stauffer received his preparatory education at Mt. Pleasant Seminary, in his native town, which institution was organized by his father in 1850. He was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College, at Lancaster, in 1858, and after teaching school for one year at Boyertown came to Reading in 1860, here taking up the reading of law with the late John S. Richards. He was admitted to practice April 15, 1861, on the very day which witnessed

the issuance of the proclamation of President Lincoln calling for 75,000 troops, this proclamation being read in court, all the members of the Bar then assembled taking the oath of allegiance. On June 28, 1863, Mr. Stauffer enlisted, becoming a member of Company C, 42d Pennsylvania Volunteers, and served with loyalty and fidelity until his company was mustered out because their services were no longer required, practically at the end of the war. He returned to Reading, and in 1867 he was nominated by the Republicans of Berks county for the State Senate, and made a gallant run on the minority ticket, carrying the city of Reading by a large majority, running far ahead of his ticket, but being defeated in the county.

This was but the beginning of a most active career. Mr. Stauffer was always deeply interested in all matters of public moment, and did yeoman service for his city. He served three terms—1869, 1873 and 1881—as a member of the city councils of Reading, and during one year of this time, 1873, he was president of same. During his membership in that body Mr. Stauffer, through his persevering efforts, brought about many measures for the public good which stand as lasting monuments to his intelligence and public spirit, his good citizenship and civic pride. But he worked equally hard in office and out, and among the many things he did for the general welfare was the promotion of a measure which secured the removal of the old market sheds which stood in Penn Square, resulting in the erection, in their stead, of the splendid market-houses that are now the pride of the Reading householders. This was accomplished in 1871. Mr. Stauffer also used his ability as a lawyer as well as his courage as a man in making free (in 1883) the three bridges which cross the Schuylkill at Reading, the citizens formerly having been forced to pay toll. Mr. Stauffer discovered that this toll was collectible only until the cost of the bridges (and repairs needed during the time the original cost was being made up) was paid. He went over the records for eighty-eight years, a truly Herculean task, and found that not only had all costs been secured from the tolls, but also \$7,000 in excess, proving by facts and figures the injustice of the conditions, and when these were properly brought before the court the bridges were made free. He worked over this problem for six years, and for this service the councils presented him a set of resolutions thanking him in behalf of the city. A third very important measure for which the city is indebted to Mr. Stauffer was the securing to the city of the old parade ground, now Penn Common, thirty-nine acres of ground, worth nearly \$1,000,000. It had been leased (but without legal warrant) by the commissioners of Berks county to the Agricultural Society for a period of ninety-nine years, at an annual rental of one dollar. This resulted in lengthy litigation, the lower court deciding against the city, but the Supreme court reversed the decision and gave the land to the city. Hon. George F. Baer was associated with Mr. Stauffer in making this fight, Mr. Baer bringing the case before the Supreme court. Both gentlemen declined pay for their services, and the Board of Trade and city councils spread upon their minutes the most eulogistic praise of the eminent and public-spirited services that Mr. Stauffer and Mr. Baer had rendered.

Mr. Stauffer was married Sept. 25, 1860, to Emma Louisa Ranninger, a daughter of one of the pioneer bookbinders of Lancaster, Pa., where his bindery was a familiar landmark. Mrs. Stauffer was born Feb. 7, 1841, and died March 29, 1865. Two children were born to this union, viz.: Ella Selma, born March 11, 1862, died May 3, 1866, as the result of a fall. Edgar Embury, born March 8, 1865, died July 27, 1865.

Mr. Stauffer married for his second wife Mary High Keim, daughter of Col. John Keim, a lumber dealer of Reading, and later a banker at Dubuque, Iowa. At the death of Mrs. Stauffer, which occurred in 1891, the newspapers of Reading vied in their tributes to her rare gifts of mind and heart, one of them saying, in an extended obituary, "She united the old Keim family of Berks and the Randolph stock of Virginia. She was descended maternally from the Tuckahoe branch of the Randolphs of Virginia, and was a granddaughter of Col. Thomas Riv-

erly Randolph, one of the first graduates of West Point. She was of the tenth generation in descent from the Algonquin princess, Pocahontas. She became the beloved mother of four children, all of whom survive, viz.: John Keim, Frederick Randolph, Anna Keim and Mary Virginia, William Wirt Mills, of New York, a son of Mrs. Stauffer by her first husband, Col. William Wirt Mills, of Dubuque, Iowa, also survives."

Of the children, John K. Stauffer, a graduate of Yale College, class of 1895, is connected with the *Times* of Washington, D. C., and is Washington correspondent for the *New York Evening Post* and for the *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*. Frederick Randolph Stauffer, now a lawyer in practice at Reading, was graduated from Yale, class of 1903, and then studied law with Hon. George F. Baer and Jefferson Snyder, Esq. In June, 1907, he was nominated for District Attorney of Berks county on the Republican ticket but subsequently withdrew because ineligible to serve, as he had not been in practice the required length of time. The daughter graduated from the Reading high school and the National Park Seminary, at Washington, D. C. They are socially prominent in Reading.

Mr. Stauffer was a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to Reading Commandery, No. 42. He was a member of the Episcopal Church, and a vestryman at Christ Church, Reading, and he was one of the founders and treasurer of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Reading. In 1872 Mr. Stauffer was made a director and trustee of the Reading Public Library, continuing to serve as such to the end of his days, and he gave considerable time to furthering its interests. It was through his efforts that the property was saved to the company when the failure of the Reading Savings Bank threatened to sweep it away, and it was he who fought for so many years for a city appropriation. Primarily a professional man, with large interests, he thus found time on many occasions to give his best efforts to the advancement of the civic welfare and the promotion of enterprises in which his concern personally was simply that of a public spirited citizen. Though past seventy, Mr. Stauffer enjoyed excellent health until a week before his death, when he contracted a cold which ended in pneumonia and he died at the family residence, No. 1514 Full Road, Nov. 4, 1906.

HIRAM J. BIGONY, a prominent and influential citizen of Mohnton, Pa., engaged in the manufacture of hosiery, was born June 1, 1869, at Sanatoga, Montgomery Co., Pa., son of William W. and Mary L. (Weida) Bigony.

The spelling of the name Bigony was formerly Bigonet or Pichonet, and the seat of the family was in Languedoc, France. The first of the name here was Jean Bigonet, a native of the city of Nîmes, who came in 1732. On May 27, 1753, he was married in Germantown, Pa., to Catherine Elizabeth, the widow of Henry Ozias. In 1773 arrived Francois P. Bigonet, who located in the Falkner Swamp in Montgomery county, Pa., where he married Maria Brant in 1779. They had children: Joseph, grandfather of Hiram J.; Mary, m. to Isaac Yost; Susan, m. to George Rinehart; and a third daughter, who was killed while still young on her way home from Philadelphia.

Joseph Bigony was born in Montgomery county, Nov. 14, 1790, and died Oct. 7, 1869. For some years he lived in Amity township, Berks county, but later he returned to Sanatoga, Montgomery county, where he died. He was a prosperous farmer and also did some driving and auctioneering, making occasional trips to Canada for cattle. On Dec. 15, 1811, he married Rachel Worley, born Sept. 17, 1791, who died aged seventy-five years, seven months, twenty days, daughter of Henry Worley, of Pottstown. Their children were: Francis, born July 25, 1814; John, Feb. 26, 1816; Joseph, March 1, 1818; Mary Ann, March 11, 1820; Henry, Feb. 27, 1822; Leah, Sept. 17, 1824 (residing at Alden Station, Pa.); Hiram and Ephraim, twins, March 9, 1828; Frank, Sept. 7, 1830; and Reuben and William, twins, Dec. 24, 1832.

William W. Bigony, father of Hiram J., was born in Amity township and when a young man learned the tanning trade of his brother, Joseph, of Longswamp town-

ship. This he followed for about twenty-five years, and in 1869-71 was engaged in the hotel business at Alburtis, Lehigh county, and Montgomery, Berks county. In 1872 he moved to Greenwich township on a small farm near Grinnville, and he engaged in the droving business there until his retirement in 1902, when he moved to Edison, Cumru township, where he died Nov. 15, 1905, aged nearly seventy-four years. He was a well known cattle dealer of his day, and also was very successful as an auctioneer. On Feb. 12, 1860, Mr. Bigony married Mary L. Weida, born May 31, 1836, in Longswamp township, and still living, daughter of Daniel and Eliza (Weiler) Weida. To this union there were born children as follows: Annie died in 1880, aged nineteen years; Hiram J.; Sallie, born May 22, 1864, is single; Ella died in infancy; Lizzie, born Jan. 8, 1866, is unmarried; William E., born March 1, 1868, is an insurance agent and resides in Reading; John died in infancy; Emma, born Oct. 29, 1874; and Mary, born Sept. 29, 1877.

Hiram J. Bigony was educated in the public schools, the Keystone State Normal School and the Eastman Business College, graduating from the latter in 1892. His boyhood days were spent on his father's farm near Grinnville, and at an early age he began teaching school in Greenwich township, where he continued successfully for seven consecutive terms. In 1889 he came to Cumru township, receiving an advanced salary, and taught in that township for thirteen years, meeting with flattering success. Professor Bigony was the instructor of the Mohnton grammar school for ten terms, and holds a State teacher's permanent certificate. While a teacher in Greenwich and Cumru townships, Mr. Bigony was instrumental in organizing debating societies, which were largely attended, doing much good in their various localities. Mr. Bigony was himself an excellent debater, being quick-witted, logical and forceful in the presentation of his arguments.

From youth on Mr. Bigony assisted his father in the cattle business, and in this manner came into contact with business men throughout Eastern Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1903 he formed a partnership with John and Charles Richwein of Mohnton, under the firm name of Electric Hosiery Company, manufacturers of seamless hosiery. They erected a plant 24 x 68 feet, two stories high, and here employ forty-five people, their product being 200 dozen daily, which find a ready market throughout the country. In January, 1906, Mr. Bigony was elected a director of the Wyomissing Hosiery Mills of Mohnton, of which he was later made treasurer and general superintendent, and this well established firm has two mills. The plant at Mohnton is 30 x 100 feet, three stories high, and employs sixty people, while the other plant, at Rhinholds, Lancaster county, is 30 x 50 feet two stories high, and has thirty hands.

In 1895 Mr. Bigony built a modern two-story brick residence on Chestnut street, Mohnton, where he resided until 1905, and in this year moved into his present residence on Wyomissing avenue, which has a gray sandstone front and bay windows. In politics Mr. Bigony is a non-partisan, voting independently. He was prominently identified with the incorporation of Mohnton into a borough and was chairman at different meetings, doing much in behalf of the movement. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias, No. 485; P. O. S. of A., No. 211, and Sr. O. U. A. M., all of Mohnton.

On Oct. 2, 1894, Mr. Bigony married Lizzie H. Weidner, daughter of John A. and Catherine (Hornberger) Weidner, a complete sketch of whom will be found elsewhere. To this union there were born three children, as follows: E. Madeline, born Feb. 1, 1896; Blanche, Dec. 12, 1901; and Warren W., Aug. 23, 1905 (died Nov. 23, 1905). Mr. Bigony and his family are members of Zion's United Evangelical Church, of Mohnton, of which he has been pastor since 1906. He and his wife are also members of the Sunday-school, and take a great interest in the work of the organization, being cheerful and liberal givers of both time and money. Mr. Bigony is a careful reader of the household's good substantial man, and possesses an enviable reputation for honesty and integrity. On April 30, 1907, he

was elected a member of the school board, and is now serving as secretary of that board.

WILLIAM MORRIS GRISCOM, president of the Reading Hardware Company, one of the leading business enterprises of its kind in the country, of which he was the principal organizer in 1851, is now residing at Bryn Mawr, near Philadelphia, in comfortable retirement from active pursuits. He was born Oct. 14, 1829, at Oxford, Chester Co., Pa., son of Samuel and Ann (Powell) Griscom.

Andrew Griscom, the great-great-grandfather of William M., emigrated to the New World from England in 1680, and settled at Philadelphia, residing on Second street, opposite the home of William Penn. He built the first brick house at Philadelphia, served as one of the city's first grand jurors, and died in 1694. He married Sarah Dale, and by her had four children: Samuel, David, Tobias and Sarah.

Tobias Griscom, son of Andrew, was a farmer, and settled between Philadelphia, Pa., and Gloucester, N. J. He married Deborah Gabitas, and they had five children, namely: William, Tobias, Mary, Andrew and Samuel.

Of this family Andrew Griscom, born in 1711, died in 1773, was the great-grandfather of William M. He married (first) Susanna Hancock, by whom he had three children: Sarah, Everett and William; and after her death married (second) Mary Bacon, by whom he also had three children: Mary, Andrew and Deborah.

William Griscom, the grandfather of William M., a farmer of Mannington, Salem Co., N. J., was born in 1747 and died in 1833. He married Rachel Denn, born in 1745, who died in 1808, and they had a family of seven children: John, William, Samuel (died in infancy), Everett, Rachel, Samuel (2) and David.

SAMUEL GRISCOM, the father of William M., was connected for upward of twenty-three years with the Schuylkill canal management. He was born at Salem, N. J., in 1787, and was reared on a farm. Upon reaching manhood he determined to become a builder, and in this behalf learned the trade of brickmason. Developing an aptitude for building operations, he located at Philadelphia, where he was engaged in erecting dwelling-houses for ten years. While so engaged he came to know some of the directors of the Schuylkill Navigation Company, and they, appreciating his abilities and success as a builder, employed him to fill the position of civil engineer and manager of the canal, to look after the construction department. Immediately after his appointment to this position, in 1820, he fixed his residence at Reading, which was the central point of the canal between Pottsville and Philadelphia. In the performance of his duties, he distinguished himself by the construction of dams, locks and viaducts, and the maintenance of the artificial channel; which is evidenced by his retention for twenty-three years.

While filling this important position he discovered a bed of cement rock along the eastern bank of the Schuylkill near the Shepp Dam, three miles above Reading, and, building the necessary oven, manufactured large quantities of superior cement, which was profitably used in construction work along the canal. He also developed a large business for the company in the transportation of lime for agricultural purposes, thereby becoming the first person in this section of the country to manufacture and supply lime as a fertilizer. In 1841 it became necessary for him to locate at Pottsville in the management of the canal, and he continued in the employ of the company until 1848, when he resumed to superintend boating interests on the canal. This position he held until his death, in 1849, when, in the report of the company, his efficiency was recognized.

Mr. Griscom married Ann Powell, daughter of Jeremiah Powell, a farmer of Salem county, N. J., and there were twelve children born to this union: Rachel D., David P., Sarah P., Powell, Elizabeth, Samuel Everett, Edwin Atlee, Chalkley, William M., Horace, Anna and

Emeline. The mother died in 1860, aged seventy-six years, at Reading, to which place she had retired during Mr. Griscom's absence.

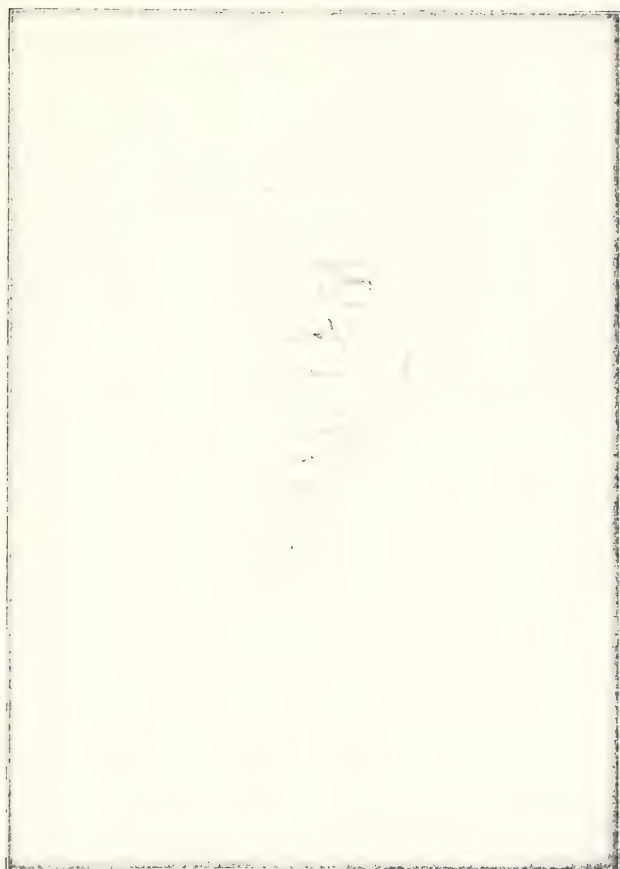
William M. Griscom was three years old when his parents removed to Reading, and there he pursued his preparatory education until he was twelve years old, when he entered the Clermont Academy, situated in the vicinity of Frankford, near Philadelphia; he remained in that institution for two years. Being inclined to mechanics, his father secured an apprenticeship for him in the famous "Norris" Locomotive Works" at Philadelphia, where 125 apprentices were at that time learning the trade of machinist, but after he had been there less than two years the prevailing panic throughout the State caused the works to suspend operations, and he was obliged to return home.

Mr. Griscom then entered the hardware store of Keim & Miller, at the southeast corner of Third and Penn streets, Reading, as a clerk, and by so doing started a career in the hardware business which has been continued very successfully until the present time, covering altogether a period of seventy years. He served in this store for about three years, but wishing to fill a similar place with better prospects for advancement he went to Philadelphia, and there obtained employment in the large and prosperous hardware store of R. & W. C. Biddle. In three years he succeeded in developing such a large and profitable trade in the Schuylkill Valley and the territory beyond the Broad Mountains, through the assistance and influence of his father, that he was invited to become a member of the firm. Appreciating this honor, he secured an interest in the business and continued as a member of the firm for five years. An opportunity was then presented for him to engage in the manufacture of charcoal iron in Centre county, and withdrawing from the firm he directed all his efforts to the successful operation of the furnace for the next three years. The plant was called the Howard Iron Works. While operating this plant, Mr. Griscom became interested with his brothers-in-law, William and Marthan Harbster, whose sister Ellen he had married; in establishing a foundry at Reading for the manufacture of all kinds of building hardware and he advancing the necessary capital they together put up a small plant and then started an enterprise which was the foundation of the Reading Hardware Works. This was in 1851. In a short time the prospects for a large and profitable business became so encouraging that he disposed of his interest in the iron works mentioned and devoted all of his time to the development of the hardware business. His extended acquaintance and large experience in the hardware trade, which he had acquired by his connection with the Biddle firm, gave him unusual advantages in building up the trade and influence of the new enterprise, and thereby he was enabled to supply orders from different sections of the country, which kept the plant busy and required constant enlargements year after year, until in a quarter century the enterprise so modestly begun was one of the largest and most prosperous industries in Pennsylvania.

In 1878 Mr. Griscom went to Europe in behalf of the works, and he there succeeded in gradually developing a very large trade. A special exhibit of their articles was made at the Paris Exposition of 1878, which proved highly creditable and beneficial, and for which they received a bronze medal. In the countries of Europe, as well as in the United States, they came to supply the building hardware for the finest and largest structures, thereby showing that their plant at Reading was recognized as the equal, if not the superior, of any similar plant. While abroad, Mr. Griscom returned annually to Reading to make necessary arrangements for filling his orders, and in so doing he traveled across the Atlantic ocean about fifty times. Finally, in 1901, on account of his age, he was obliged to discontinue his residence abroad, and returning to Pennsylvania he purchased a property at Bryn Mawr, near Philadelphia, which he improved according to his ideas of a home for himself and family, and he is



SAMUEL GRISCOM AND WIFE ANN GRISCOM



William M. Griscom

now enjoying its well-deserved comforts. In the re-organization of the hardware works, in the spring of 1907, he was elected president of the corporation.

On May 23, 1847, Mr. Griscom married Ellen Harbster, who was born at Hamburg, Pa., July 5, 1825, daughter of Henry Harbster, of Hamburg, and died April 22, 1864. To this union there was born one daughter, Annie. On May 10, 1882, Mr. Griscom was married at Zurich, Switzerland, by U. S. (vice) Consul John Syz, to Annie Lydia Miller, who was born at Hamburg, Pa., Aug. 9, 1859, daughter of Girard Miller, also of Hamburg, and by her he had four sons and two daughters, as follows: Andrew, William M., Jr., Frederick G., Edgar DeWare, Ethel L. and Grace Millicent, all of whom were born in Germany, while Mr. Griscom was living at Berlin.

RACHEL DENN GRISCOM (sister of William M., and daughter of Samuel Griscom) was the founder of the "Widows' Home" at Reading, and one of the noblest characters in Berks county, having been known for her humane and charitable spirit in the community for seventy-five years—a period extending from the dawn of her womanhood until she went to her eternal rest at the age of ninety-two; and the board of managers, with which she had been intimately associated for twenty-five years, truly said of her at the end of her remarkable career: "Her life is a noble example of womanly power through the life of the highest feminine virtues."

Miss Griscom was born at Salem, N. J., Nov. 5, 1808. While she was an infant, not a year old, her parents removed to Philadelphia, and there she was brought up and educated under the superior influence of the Society of Friends until she became seventeen years of age. With a natural inclination to carry on the vocation of a teacher, she secured a school at Hancock Bridge, N. J., near her birthplace, for her initiatory experience, and after teaching there for a season was employed to teach in the "Friends' School" at Philadelphia, in 1826, but she was there only a few months when her parents removed to Reading and she went with them.

There was a large settlement of Friends in Maiden-creek township, eight miles north of Reading, and learning of Miss Griscom's success as a teacher, they employed her to carry on their school. She continued teaching this school until the common school system was accepted by Reading in 1835, and then she started as a teacher in the public school there; and from that time for about twenty-five years she was engaged at teaching either in the public schools, or in private female seminaries, or on her own account. Soon after beginning at Reading, in 1837, she reported a school attendance of 116 pupils, fifty-eight in the first class, twenty-six in the second and thirty-two in the third. Her salary was then only thirteen dollars a month. The last school which she taught was in the Exeter meeting house in 1860.

Miss Griscom will be principally remembered, however, as one of the organizers of the "Home for Widows and Single Women of Reading," indeed as the very first person to suggest the propriety and necessity of establishing a charitable institution of this kind at Reading. She and a number of other Christian ladies assembled repeatedly in the law offices of the author of this history, at No. 546 Court street, during the year 1875, and formulated the plans which culminated in the incorporated body in January, 1876. The petitioners signed the application for a charter in this office. As the secretary, she was most active and zealous, always hopeful and determined and her great perseverance was eventually rewarded by the recognition of the community and the establishment of the "Home." Her indomitable spirit in the noble cause kept her at the head of all the movements of the society until her physical strength became too weak to permit her to continue any longer active in its management and so, in 1891, at the age of eighty-three years, after a continuous service of fifteen years as the secretary, she declined a reelection. Upon the announcement of her purpose the board of managers passed the follow-

ing highly appropriate and laudatory resolution, Jan. 15, 1891:

"No mere words of sorrow or resolutions of regret can convey an idea of the loss the Board of Managers sustained in the resignation of Miss Griscom as secretary. From her labors of philanthropy this charity had its origin; to her praiseworthy industry much of its systematic arrangement is due; to her influence among the people, who accepted what she approved, much of its success is due. Her faith in the benevolence of her neighbors often enabled this Board to undertake work that at first sight seemed impossible. May her example of untiring industry and Christian philanthropy have a lasting influence on the members of this Board."

The retiring secretary addressed this reply to the Board, Feb. 12, 1891:

"Accept my heartfelt thanks for your kind resolution in regard to my past services as secretary. Those services were made and well repaid by your unvarying consideration, indulgence, aid and cheerful, helpful gifts. We have journeyed together in harmony and prospered. May the future bring to you, to the Association and to my successor the same progress, prosperity and grateful consciousness of Divine aid and appreciation."

During Miss Griscom's declining years, the author of this history called to see her a number of times socially at her home, No. 227 South Fourth street, and to him her noble spirit was always inexpressibly beautiful and inspiring. She died at Reading Jan. 8, 1901, at the age of ninety-two years, two months, three days, and all who had come to know her and to appreciate her worth to the community mourned her departure. The managers of the Widows' Home felt their loss particularly, and on the 10th of January following passed an appropriate resolution of regret.

JOHN G. NIETHAMMER has been engaged in business in Reading on his own account for the past twenty years and during his honorable career has sustained the high reputation which the name Niethammer has long borne in this city.

Balthasar Niethammer, grandfather of John G., was a native of Germany, where he followed farming and engaged in the cattle business, and where he died. He and his wife, Anna Maria Seager, were the parents of two children: Elizabeth, who married and died in Germany; and John George, father of John G., of Reading.

John George Niethammer was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and there received his education. He came to America July 19, 1852, landing in New York City, at nine o'clock in the evening, and after pending two days there came to Reading. His first occupation was as superintendent of a large sawmill near that city, from which mill came the timbers used to build the bridges along the Schuylkill and Tulpehocken rivers. Mr. Niethammer was next employed at the Berks County House for several years, and then moved to Muhlenberg Hall, No. 757 Penn street, and there he conducted successfully until his death, March 30, 1890, a period of thirty-three years. He was one of the first importers of Rhine wine to Reading, making a special trip to Europe for that purpose. He was connected with the Teutonic Lodge of Masons. Mr. Niethammer was married in Reading, in March, 1855, by the Rev. Mr. Keller, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, to A. Mary Gessler, also a native of Germany, born Sept. 17, 1833, who came to America March 18, 1853. After the death of her husband Mrs. Niethammer continued the business for eight years, and in 1898 removed to No. 122 North Eleventh street, where she died June 21, 1905. Both she and her husband were buried at the Charles Evans cemetery. Of their children: Mary Catherine m. Samuel P. Brown, and died in 1887; Anna Margaret and Elizabeth, both single, live at the Eleventh street house; John G. is mentioned below; Anne M. died in infancy; Peter B. married Laura Miller, and resides in East Reading; and Jacob B., an inventor, and a very popular young man of the city, who took a prominent part in the work of the Y. M. C. A., died Jan. 19, 1894.

John G. Niethammer was born in Reading in 1862, and received his education in his native city, first attending the public schools and subsequently E. E. Post Commercial College, where he was given thorough training in business methods. Then he went to Lancaster, Lancaster Co., Pa., where he was employed by a Mr. Casper Kohler, having charge of the office for about a year. Returning to Reading at the end of that time he assisted his father as clerk for a few years, remaining with him until he started in business for himself. When Mr. Niethammer was about twenty-three he opened the establishment known as Niethammer's Cafe, at No. 13 North Eighth street, and engaged in the hotel and restaurant business very successfully for nineteen years, becoming as well and as favorably known in his line as his father. He finally sold out to a Mr. Harner in order to devote himself to another enterprise, the manufacture of cigars. On March 21, 1904, he commenced this business in the old Rainbow fire house, No. 23 North Eighth street, where he conducted a thriving establishment in partnership with Charles E. Nagle and Hiestler C. Nagle, the firm being known as the N. & N. Cigar Company, until Jan. 1, 1909, when he purchased his partners' interest and is now the sole owner of the business. Employment is given to twenty-five skilled workmen, and only high grade products are made, a few of the brands being the "Triple N.," which is in both five and ten-cent varieties, the "Jerry Murphy" and "Honor Bound," both five-cent brands, the "Major N.," a ten-cent product, the "N. B.," and the "J. G. N.," both fifteen-cent cigars, and the "Hoya-Uneva," a twenty-five cent cigar. The local trade is large and steady and there is also an extensive out-of-town business. Besides his manufacturing interests, Mr. Niethammer has a retail cigar store at No. 17 North Eighth street, and in connection therewith has six bowling alleys, three pool tables and a billiard table. He put up the building in which this establishment is located, a four-story structure, in April, 1904. Mr. Niethammer's energy and progressive spirit have won him a standing among the substantial business men of the city, and he enjoys the confidence and respect of his associates wherever he is known.

On April 16, 1885, Mr. Niethammer married Eleanor Loewen, and their home is at No. 45 South Eighth street. Mr. Niethammer devotes his time and attention to business chiefly, but he has served fifteen years as treasurer of the Rainbow Fire Company, in whose welfare he is much interested. Mr. Niethammer has been the owner of some very fine horses, and at one time owned the famous "Major N.," widely known and a great favorite throughout this circuit.

CALEB WEIDNER, city clerk of Reading and one of the prominent workers in the Democratic party, was born in Exeter township, Berks county, Nov. 11, 1869, son of George D. and Susan (Clark) Weidner, and member of an early settled family of the county.

Peter Weidner, great-grandfather of Caleb, was born in Oley township, Berks county, April 13, 1759, and he died at the Falls of the Schuylkill, where he had conducted a ferry for many years, March 30, 1822, at the age of sixty-two years, eleven months and twelve days. His wife, Susan Levering in her maidenhood, was born Nov. 28, 1757, and she died Oct. 17, 1843, in the eighty-seventh year of her age. Their children were: Henry, born Aug. 30, 1781, died Feb. 5, 1836; Charles, born Sept. 11, 1783; Elizabeth, born Aug. 6, 1785, died Aug. 14, 1785; Peter, born Sept. 4, 1786, died June 18, 1788; Peter (2), born Feb. 6, 1789; John, born June 22, 1791; Margaret, born Feb. 17, 1794; Elizabeth (2), born July 26, 1798, died April 25, 1822; Susan, born Jan. 26, 1799, died Dec. 18, 1800; Susan (2), born Oct. 25, 1801; and Catharine, born Oct. 28, 1803.

Peter Weidner, son of Peter, born at the Falls of the Schuylkill Feb. 6, 1789, learned the cooper's trade in his youth, and followed it all his life. In 1823 he came with his family from Roxboro to Stonetown, and he died at the latter place, June 21, 1878, in the nineteenth year of his age. He was twice married. In his first wife he had three sons: Charles, who died at Birdsboro; Mathias, who

died at Philadelphia; and John, who died at Stonetown. For his second wife Peter Weidner married Elizabeth Good, who died in March, 1834, at the age of seventy-four years. Their children were: Jane, m. to William Sherman; Susan, m. to Thomas Wolf; Mary, m. to Caleb B. Ruth; Margaret, m. to George Hart; Peter, who died young; and George D., mentioned below.

George D. Weidner, son of Peter and Elizabeth, was born at Stonersville, in Exeter township, Sept. 23, 1844. In his young manhood he learned telegraphy, and for many years he was station agent at Exeter, now Lorane. During the Civil war he evinced his patriotism by enlisting in Company K, 151st Pa. V. I., and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. He participated in the battles of Antietam and Gettysburg, and was severely wounded at the latter. He was for some time in the hospital at Harrisburg, and after his release and partial recovery he came to Reading and learned the cigar maker's trade. This he was obliged to abandon on account of his health, and he then worked at the Signal tower near Exeter until 1865. The next year he timed the trains at Quinter's Bridge, and continued there until 1868. From 1868 until 1872 he was operator at Exeter station, and in the latter year he purchased the store and hotel property at Exeter, and these he successfully conducted until 1883. The next two years were spent in Wayne township, Schuylkill county, where he owned a valuable farm which he cultivated. His wife and family then removed to Reading, and there the family home has since been maintained. Since locating in Reading Mr. Weidner has worked at different vocations, for several years being in the employ of the railroad. Mr. Weidner married Miss Susan Clark, who was born April 1, 1848, daughter of William and Susan (Hiester) Clark. Eight children—six sons and two daughters—blessed this union: Miss Mary; Kate, m. to Frederick Weidenhammer, of Reading; Caleb; George, m. to Laura Weidner, daughter of Henry Weidner, of Reading; Harry, of Reading; William, m. to Ella Morris, and engaged as a barber in Reading; Winfield S., of Reading; and Walter, a well known showman who has traveled all over the United States.

Caleb Weidner, son of George D., attended school in the township and later in Schuylkill county. He early started out for himself, working upon the farm in Schuylkill county. On Dec. 2, 1883, he accompanied his mother to Reading, and this has since been his home. He has been the main support of his mother since before he was eleven years of age. His first employment in this city was with the Reading Hardware Company, with whom he remained for two years. He then learned the hatter's trade with John H. Hendel, and this he followed from 1886 to 1903. On May 1, 1903, he became registry clerk to Elmer H. Beard, in the city engineer's office at the city hall. After four years of efficient service with the city engineer he was elected by the council to the office of city clerk of Reading, on March 11, 1907, and in April following assumed the duties of that office.

Mr. Weidner is one of the leading men at the city hall, and wields a powerful influence in local politics. He has always been a Democrat, and has been a worker for his party since he was nineteen. He has frequently been a delegate to county conventions, and in 1906 was a delegate to the State Convention. His first political office was election inspector of the 2d precinct of the Tenth ward. Since 1900 he has been a member of the City Democratic executive committee, and is vice president of same. The future looks most promising to him. He has kept himself upright and honorable, keeping his promises and fulfilling his obligations, and he has won the respect of men in all parties.

Mr. Weidner was instrumental in the reorganization of the Wood Hatters' Union of Reading, which is a chartered institution. Of this he was president from 1892 to 1904. In 1893 he was elected national vice president, and was president for a number of years of the International Hatters' Union of North America, after having been twice sent as delegate to that convention by the local association which he placed on so high a standard. He is a man

ber of many organizations, among them being: Lodge No. 549, F. & A. M., Reading; Reading Chapter, No. 152; Allen Council, No. 23, R. & S. M., Allentown; De Molay Commandery, No. 9; Rajah Temple, Mystic Shrine; Reading Aerie No. 66, Fraternal Order of Eagles, of which he is treasurer; Freedom Circle No. 7, Brotherhood of America; and he is an active member, stock holder and vice president of the Eagles Mountain Home Association. He also belongs to Washington Fire Company No. 2, of which he was trustee for six terms. He is likewise connected with a number of social clubs. In his religious faith he is a member of the First Reformed Church. He is well read, progressive and intelligent, and has hosts of warm friends. He is a great comfort to his venerable mother, with whom he resides at No. 253 South Tenth street, Reading.

WEIDNER. The ancestor of the Weidner family in Berks county was (I) Adam Weidner, who settled in Oley township prior to 1744, in which year he bought a considerable tract of land from Benjamin Lee, a part of which, located in the vicinity of Pleasantville, is now the property of Philip D. Hoch. He had three sons, (II) Tychicus, Lazarus and David, whom, tradition says, were born in Wurtemberg, Germany. They, too, came to Pennsylvania, and Tychicus Weidner, who is also called "Dietrich" Weidner, and his brother Lazarus had settled in Oley township before 1744. In 1759 "Dehecus" Weidner paid a federal tax of 17 pounds in Oley. He died in 1798, the year in which his will was probated. He was a large land owner, and at his death left a large estate, which he divided equitably among his children, who were eleven in number and named as follows: Jacob, John, Hannah, Catharine, Esther, Susanna, Mary, Peter, Jonathan, Christian and Daniel. The eldest daughter, Hannah, was never married. She was bequeathed with a house, so much flax every year, and the walnut wash props.

In 1788 (II) Tychicus Weidner sold a tract of land located in Amity township, this county, to his eldest son, Jacob, and to the same son he sold another tract, of 200 acres, situated in Oley township (being a part of a tract of 404 acres), in the year 1791.

(III) Jacob Weidner, eldest son of Tychicus, was first married to Elizabeth Price, and they became the parents of the following children: Peter, who settled at the Falls of the Schuylkill, Daniel, who died aged twenty years; David; Jacob, m. to Hannah Yoder (they had Benneville and Mary); Hannah, m. to Daniel Brown, of Pricetown, Berks county (she lived to the great age of ninety-eight years); a daughter m. to David Yoder, moving with him to New York State; and William.

(IV) William Weidner, son of Jacob, married Susanna Yoder. They were farming people and lived in Oley township. Their nine children were: Jacob; Daniel, who moved to Northumberland county, Pa., and later settled in Ohio; William, m. to Catharine Beam; Reuben, m. to Mary Beam; George, m. to Theresa Berndt; Rachel, m. to William Dilaplain; Amanda, m. to Reuben Dry; Leah, m. to Israel Kenn (they settled in the vicinity of Milton, Pa.); and Polly, m. to David Weidner.

(V) Jacob Weidner, eldest son of William, was born in Oley, and during his earlier manhood followed farming, also conducting a wheelwright shop above Pleasantville until 1835, when he moved to Reading. There he was a car builder for Johnston & Shaaber. He married Mary Ann Weidner, a daughter of David Weidner, of Friedensburg, Pa., and they had the following named children: Augustus, who died young; Jacob, who died young; James, who was killed in battle in the Civil war; Gideon; Daniel W.; Malinda.

(VI) Gideon Weidner was born in 1842, son of Jacob, was a shoemaker in Reading all his life, and he died in 1906. His wife was Esther Graul, and to them were born two children: James L. and Anne, the latter the wife of Samuel Kreder, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

(VII) James L. Weidner, son of Gideon, was born in Reading Aug. 8, 1865, and still makes his home in that city. He is engaged as a brick maker during the warm

weather and as a shoemaker in the wintertime. In 1889 he married Mary Monroe, and to them have been born two children, Annie and Charles.

(VI) Daniel W. Weidner, brother of Gideon, was born Oct. 12, 1814. When seventeen years old he commenced to learn shoemaking, and has ever since followed that trade, having his shop and home at No. 231 South Tenth street, Reading. He is active in religious work and identified with independent church activities as a member of the Gospel Tabernacle in Reading. In 1866 Mr. Weidner m. Sallie Price, by whom he has two children: Harry J., a shoemaker of Reading; and Annie, m. to Jeremiah Auge, of Reading.

(V) Reuben Weidner (son of William, son of Jacob, son of Tychicus) was born in 1832 and died in 1889. He m. Mary Beam, and had a family of five children: Annie m. Alvin Levan; Elias m. Amanda Cleaver; Helen m. Chester B. Cleaver; William m. Hannah George; Amanda m. Charles Holt.

After the death of (III) Jacob Weidner (eldest son of Tychicus) his widow Elizabeth, nee Price, remarried, her second husband being Peter Weidner, a younger brother of her first. Peter Weidner was born in 1774 and died in 1838, in his sixty-fifth year. His widow survived a number of years, dying July 4, 1857, in the eighty-eighth year of her age. He was a farmer, and owned a large tract of land in Pike township, this county. To Peter and Elizabeth Weidner were born two children, viz.: John P. and Mary. The daughter, who was the youngest, m. Daniel Weidner, and they settled at Milton, Pa., where they both died.

(IV) John P. Weidner (son of Peter, son of Tychicus) was born in Pike township, Berks county, April 13, 1812, and died March 7, 1885, in his seventy-third year. He was a weaver and farmer by occupation. By his wife, Elizabeth Reppert, he had a family of ten children, namely: William R., Jonathan, Sarah, John R., Eliza, Kate, Leanda, Caroline, Mary and Peter.

(V) William R. Weidner, son of John P., was born in Pike township, Nov. 27, 1837, and is a farmer by occupation. He has lived successively in Oley, Ruscombmanor, Alsace and Exeter townships, having made his home continuously on one farm in Exeter from 1881 to the present time. In 1884 he married Emma Himmelreich, by whom he had these children: Seth, Amanda, Emma, William, Katie, John and Daniel (twins) and Thomas.

(V) John R. Weidner, brother of William R., was born in Pike township, Oct. 12, 1842, and lived upon the farm in that township until 1866, in which year he moved to Reading, where he has lived ever since. He is a boss carpenter, and has for many years been engaged in the building and contracting business. In 1867 he was married to Hattie Brown, by whom he had one child, Clara, and in 1880 he was married to Elva F. Weber. Nine children have been born to the second union, namely: Nora, Howard, Florence, Bessie, Almeretta, John, Benjamin, Minerva and Edgar.

(III) Jonathan Weidner, one of the sons of Tychicus, of Oley, was born there in 1766, and died in 1838, in his seventy-third year. He lived on a farm near Pricetown, in Ruscombmanor township. He m. Bevy Gambler, and their family consisted of three children: Abraham, who lived in Alsace township, m. Katie Beck, and they had two daughters, Bevy and Amelia; Bevy m. John Focht; Jonathan was born in 1805 and died in 1861.

(IV) Jonathan Weidner, son of Jonathan, was born in 1805, and died in 1861. He had a family of three children: Augustus, who is mentioned presently; Maberry, of Allentown, Pa.; and Sarah, m. to Elias Becker.

(V) Augustus Weidner, eldest son of Jonathan, was born Aug. 14, 1838, is a huckster and farmer by calling, and lives near Pricetown. He m. Maria Dehl and they have had children as follows: Kate m. Harry Gutz, Hannah m. Howard Hartman; Orville (deceased) m. Oscar Bush; Anna M. m. Howard Doman; Edwina m. Nora Ballard; Augustus m. Lizzy Kern; Irwin m. Louisa Exelbert; John died in childhood.

(II) Lazarus Weidner, son of Adam the emigrant ancestor, settled in Oley township, where he and his brother Tychicus owned adjoining estates. These lands were separated by a lane which has since become a public road. In 1759 Lazarus Weidner paid a federal tax of 18 pounds.

His will was probated in 1801, the executors being his son Jacob and his sons-in-law George Yoder and Jacob Preiss. An item of the will was to the effect that Elizabeth, a daughter of John Labach, was to have 15 pounds in money. The following children were mentioned in the will: Abraham; Catharine Seisholtz; Elizabeth m. Jacob Preiss; Mary m. George Yoder; Jacob; Daniel; Isaac; David, and John.

(III) Jacob Weidner, son of Lazarus, obtained the homestead in Oley, and he is buried there in a private cemetery on the farm. His wife, Veronica, died in 1865. They had three children: Catharine, born March 29, 1823, m. Isaac Keiff; Caroline m. Jacob Keim; John m. Sarah Angstadt, and they had two children, Samuel and George. The son, John, came into possession of his father's homestead, which he cultivated.

Samuel Weidner (who had a brother Benjamin) was a farmer in Pike township, where he died in 1876. His wife was Catharine Gauger, and they had the following children: William G. came into possession of the homestead; Samuel G. m. Hannah Yoder; John G. obtained part of the homestead; Catharine m. Thomas Weidner; Rachel m. Samuel G. Ruppert; Sarah m. (first) Henry Adam and (second) Henry Miller; Anna m. David Fry; Caroline m. Israel Leimbach. Both of the parents died at South Bethlehem, Pa., in December, 1906, at about the same time, and they were buried the same day in one grave.

PANNEBECKER-PENNYPACKER. Few families have contributed to the State of Pennsylvania as many men of sound judgment, wisdom and unselfish patriotism as that founded in America by Hendrick Pannabecker, who was born on or about March 21, 1674. He came to America from Flomborn, a village on the River Rhine, near Worms. There is a reference to him in an account book of Pastorious, on the 3d of 1st month, 1702. About 1699 he married Eva Cunstat, daughter of Hans Peter Cunstat, of Germantown. They had eight children: Martha, 1706-1761; Adolph, 1708-1789; Peter, 1710-1770; John, 1713-1784 (was prominent in the early days of the Revolution); Jacob, 1715-1752; Henry, 1717-1792; Barbara; and one other daughter who married a Keyser.

Peter Pannabecker, son of the emigrant Hendrick, married Elizabeth Keyser, and they became the parents of a son William.

William Pannabecker, son of Peter and Elizabeth, was born Aug. 26, 1740, and he married Mary Hause. They had a son Jesse.

Jesse Pannabecker, son of William and Mary, was born Feb. 1, 1733. He was a farmer near Keely's Church, Schwenksville, and is buried in the cemetery there. He married (first) Salome Berkey, and among their children were: Jesse B., born in 1820; Amos; and two daughters. His second wife was a Livengood, and to this marriage were born: Moses and Elias.

Jesse B. Pannabecker, son of Jesse, was born at Schwenksville, Montgomery Co., Pa., Sept. 23, 1820; he died at his home in Colebrookdale township, Berks county, April 23, 1885, and his remains rest at Fairview cemetery, Boyertown. He was a blacksmith by trade, and for ten years worked in his shop at Eshbach. He then spent eight years in farming at the same place, after which he located in Colebrookdale township, where he had a farm of thirty-eight acres, and this he cultivated from that time on until his retirement. He added twenty-eight acres to his original tract. His industry and good management brought him success, and about eleven years before he died he was able to retire and to pass his last years in the enjoyment of the competency he had earned. As a public-spirited citizen, he was in the front rank. His political principles were those of the Republican party, and he ably filled the offices of school director and tax

collector. Like all his family he belonged to St. John's Lutheran Church at Boyertown, and he at various times held all the offices in the gift of the Church. He is buried in the family lot in Fairview cemetery. He married (first) Mary Bechtel, born Oct. 23, 1821, daughter of Gehart (or Gerhart) Bechtel and wife (whose maiden name was Erdman). Both Gehart Bechtel and wife are buried in the Mennonite graveyard at Bally. Mrs. Mary (Bechtel) Pannabecker died Feb. 11, 1878. The only child born to Jesse B. and Mary (Bechtel) Pannabecker was Amos B. Jesse B. Pannabecker married (second) Esther Krause (1819-1905.)

AMOS B. PANNABECKER, son of Jesse B., was born at Eshbach Corner, in Washington township, Berks county, Oct. 26, 1843. He attended the old pay school held in a spring-house at Eshbach, on the John Reidenauer farm. The teachers were a Mr. Siegenfuss and Mr. John Trollinger. Later he attended a public school. He gave his services to his parents on the home farm until he attained his majority, and continued working for his father after that time until he was twenty-eight. After his marriage he began farming for himself in Colebrookdale township, two miles from Boyertown, on one of his father's farms. This continued to be his home until 1882, when he rented the farm of seventy-five acres. The farm on which he now lives he purchased in 1894. It consists of 110 acres of fertile land, and is improved with substantial buildings, part of which Mr. Pannabecker himself erected. He is one of the heavy taxpayers of the township. Besides his farm he is interested in the Clayton Creamery, and is president of the Clayton Creamery Association. This Creamery averages about five thousand pounds of milk daily the year round. He is also interested in the Boyertown Candy Company, and in a number of different enterprises.

Mr. Pannabecker has been active in local matters as a strong Republican, and for two years he served the township as supervisor. He was township committeeman for a number of years and was delegate to a number of county conventions. He is a member of Christ Lutheran Church, at Niantic, which he has served as deacon and elder, and at the present time is serving as trustee. His wife belongs to the New Mennonite Church at Bally.

On Dec. 24, 1870, Mr. Pannabecker married Annie Ciemmer, daughter of John and Susan (Bauer) Ciemmer, of Washington township. To this union was born a daughter, Annie, who is now the wife of Ulysses C. Meyer, the farmer on Mr. Pannabecker's farm. They have had two children: Amos H., who died aged two and one-half years; and Rosa.

On Oct. 4, 1877, the anniversary of the battle of Germantown, was held a re-union of the descendants of Hendrick Pannabecker. The site selected was the camp ground occupied by Washington and the Revolutionary army at "Pannabecker's Mills," on the Perkiomen creek. The program on that occasion included an oration by Samuel W. Pennypacker, since Governor of the Commonwealth; a hymn, written by Isaac R. Pennypacker, and adapted to Mennonite music, commemorative of Leonard Keyser, a Mennonite martyr, who was one of the forefathers of the family, to be sung to illustrate the first epoch; the ballad of Washington at Pennypacker's Mills, written by Theodore Winthrop in his novel "Edwin Brothertoft" to be read or sung as an illustration of the Revolutionary epoch; and "Gen. Pennypacker's March," by Pierre Latour, to be played for the present epoch.

The story of Leonard Keyser as given by Van Brought is as follows: "In the year 1527 was the learned and good Leonard Keyser taken and condemned to be burned. As he neared the fire, bound in a cart, he broke off a flower that grew in the field and said to the judges, for they rode along with him, 'If ye can burn this little flower and me, then have ye judged aright; if not, take heed and repent.' Thrice the great fagots were heaped around him at the stake and kindled. Nevertheless when they had burned away, his body was found unmarked save that his hair was singed and his nails were a little brown. Like-

as the little flower yet lay in his hand unchanged. Thereupon the sheriff cut his body into pieces and cast them upon the fire. But a judge was so moved therewith that he closed up his office, and one of the sheriffs became a Venetian booter and ever thereafter lived a pious life.

HYMN.

When Leonard Keyser heard the cries
Of grief for martyred dead,
And saw the place of sacrifice
Whereto his people led,
He pleaded not, with useless prayer
To scornful blasphemers near,
But plucked a flower that bloomed so fair—
It made the waste more dear.

One flower that had escaped the breath
That swept the withered land;
God's symbol of a life from death
He held it in his hand.
"If ye have power," he spoke, "this hour
With all the fires ye fight
To burn my body, or this flower,
Then have ye done aright."

His eyes upraised saw not the glare
Of torch on hooting crowd,
But far above the fagots' flare
A rift within the cloud—
A promise sent from God on high
That hate should surely fall;
No wealth could then his power defy
Nor in the end prevail.

We seek not, Lord, to know the spell
That wrought Thy will divine,
We know Thou dost all things well;
The miracle was Thine—
To cause the bonds to fall, to take
From death all trace of pain
And mark of fire, and then to make
The flower to bloom again.

The fagots' blaze like noontide hours
Gave vigor to truth's gurn,
And tears but sealed the summer showers
To make its root more firm.
Upon the land's dark abiding tide
The martyr's cross was thrown,
A witness of his creed he died,
A faith his children own.

Upon those waves the good ships bore
Truth's fruitage to the sea
Whose surges broke upon this shore
Of peace and liberty,
And Thou, O God! whose hallowed land
Upheld the troubled sea
Whereon our sires sailed to this land,
We lift our prayers to Thee—

To ask that for these kinfolk here
Thou wilt extend Thy care
As when Thou mad'st the rift appear
Above the fagots' flare;
We thank Thee for Thy blessings given
To all this gathered throng,
And sing Thy praises unto Heaven
In one triumphant song.

REV. ZENAS H. GABLE, a prominent clergyman of the Lutheran Church, who came to Reading Aug. 17, 1873, having accepted a call to six different congregations, is one of the most highly esteemed and beloved ministers of his denomination in this section of the State. The Rev. Mr. Gable was born Aug. 13, 1847, in Northampton county, Pa., son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Gibson) Gable, and grandson of Jacob and Elizabeth (Freese)

Gable. The Gable family originated in Germany, and its founder in America was Peter Gable, who with his wife Christiana came to Bucks county in 1767.

The children of Jacob and Elizabeth (Freese) Gable were: Daniel, Mary, Sophia, Aaron, Tobias and Lucy A. Jacob Gable died March 8, 1874, aged sixty-three years, and his wife Feb. 20, 1859, aged seventy-eight years.

Daniel Gable was born in Bucks county, Pa., Sept. 18, 1806, and was a farmer and carpenter, which occupations he followed all of his active period, dying Aug. 26, 1886, aged eighty-one years. His wife passed away July 1, 1867, when eighty-seven years old. Their children were: Edwin, Charles and Jasper, deceased; Sally A.; Thomas M., and Zenas H.

Zenas H. Gable was educated in the common schools and at Gettysburg (Pa.) College, from which he was graduated in 1865, subsequently attending the Mt. Airy Seminary, and graduating in Theology in 1868. He was ordained June 10, 1868, his first charge being at Seemey, Pa., where he was located from 1868 to 1870. He came to Reading Aug. 17, 1873, and took charge of the following congregations, which he has faithfully served to the present time: St. John's, Gibraltar; St. Mark's, of Birdsboro; St. James, of Geigertown; Allegheny, of Alleghenyville; Westminster, of Goulettsville; and Robeson, of Ploverville. New churches have been built in each of his parishes during his pastorate. He also organized a congregation at Shillington and a church was built in 1879. He celebrated his quarto-centennial in 1898, in each of his churches. The Rev. Mr. Gable is a man whose earnestness and piety have made him a power in the community. Not only is he a clear and convincing preacher and spiritual teacher, but he is also an able administrator, as the material prosperity of his congregations shows.

Rev. Mr. Gable was married Dec. 24, 1868, to Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Jacob Vogelbach, of Philadelphia, and six children blessed this union, as follows: Matilda F.; Rev. Charles Jacob; Son A.; Rev. Luther D.; Edmund J., a druggist; and Dr. Frank L., who attended Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, graduating in the class of 1906. Mrs. Gable died April 2, 1903. In political matters Rev. Mr. Gable is independent, voting rather for the man than the party.

DENGLER. In the year 1737 Jacob Dengler emigrated to America, coming from Germany, probably from Wittenberg. His brother Andreas, who soon followed, died in America unmarried. Jacob Dengler settled near Andoverville, and there built a large and magnificent carriage iron implement. His remains are buried at the Swamp church.

Henry Dengler, the progenitor of the Dengler in Oley township, was a grandson of Jacob, and was born Oct. 3, 1792, in Amity township. He married Sarah Gaultin, a lineal descendant of the Rev. Samuel Gaultin, who emigrated to this country in 1710, and was the first Reformed minister in Pennsylvania. Henry Dengler moved from Amity to Friedensburg, now Oley, in 1829, and embarked in a mercantile business, in which he continued until near the close of his life. He was very active in public affairs, and took a deep interest in church matters, being one of the chief promoters of the building of the First Reformed church in 1850, donating the land and contributing liberally otherwise. For many years he served as an officer of the Reformed Church. His death occurred March 19, 1860, when he was sixty-seven years, five months and sixteen days old. His wife Sarah died Oct. 30, 1853, aged seventy-six years, seven months and twenty-five days. Their children were: Henry; John G.; James G.; Harriet M. John C. Nipe, and lives in Philadelphia; George lives in Clarion county; Washington, who enlisted at the age of eighteen, served in two years in the Civil war, was captured July 24, 1863, and was kept a prisoner in Richmond until May 12, 1864, when he was taken to Andersonville. He and those he died of starvation May 6, 1864. The children of Henry and Sarah Dengler are: Mary, now deceased; John, who died of starvation May 6, 1864; George, now deceased; Mrs. Chas. L. Hubert, born, Howard M., Reilly, William and Mrs. Wendell A. Price, all living.

The Rev. James G. Dengler has been in the ministry of the Reformed Church since June, 1874. He is a graduate of Franklin & Marshall College at Lancaster, and of the Theological Seminary located there. For nearly a quarter of a century he served one charge in Sellersville, Berks Co., Pa. Dr. Dengler has been a frequent contributor to various publications, both religious and secular, and is a scholarly man of marked attainments and as a religious leader he has few equals in devoted piety and earnestness of both life and teachings.

JOHN G. DENGLER, the revered veteran school teacher of Berks county, is a resident of Friedensburg, Oley township, where he was born Oct. 29, 1837. His education was obtained in the Oley Academy under Prof. Jacob H. Major, and the Freeland Seminary under Prof. Hunsicker. He was licensed to teach in public schools under the first county superintendent of Berks county, Rev. William A. Good, in 1857, and taught the first term in Oley township, at School-house No. 1. Prof. Dengler has since been teaching every consecutive school term (except during his army service), and also has conducted select schools each spring term. He has instructed thousands of boys and girls of Berks county, forming their characters through his excellent example, as he shaped their minds with his wise precepts, and he is held in highest respect by the entire county. He is now teaching the grandchildren of his first pupils. Prof. Dengler possesses a kind and benevolent disposition which is shown in his intelligent face, and he is loved for his many excellent traits and his lofty ideals of life. During the many years that he has labored in Berks county he has witnessed many changes, especially in the public school system. His first salary was twenty-four dollars a month, of twenty-two days. Not only has he instructed the children placed under him the text of their books, but he has given them the benefit of his wide experience, his varied reading and exhaustive studies, and has never failed to hold up the highest possible standards before their young eyes.

On April 18, 1861, Mr. Dengler was filled with patriotism and enlisted in Company C, 7th Pa. V. L., at Harrisburg, and was in active service at Martinsburg, Va. His first enlistment was for but three months, but on Oct. 30, 1861, he re-enlisted at Reading, Capt. James McKnight commanding, for three years, in Battery M, U. S. A., and saw some very hard service, passing through the entire Peninsular campaign, and participating in the battles of the Wilderness. When he was mustered out Oct. 30, 1864, at Staten Island, N. Y., he was in the Sixth Army Corps.

Having thus devoted over three years of his life to his country, Prof. Dengler came back to Reading, where he arrived after midnight on Oct. 31, 1864, but so anxious was he to see his dear ones that he walked to Friedensburg, a distance of ten miles. The following day he engaged to teach the school he had left three and one-half years before at the call of duty, and he accepted the position at the earnest solicitation of his friends, who were anxious to secure his distinguished services. Prof. Dengler has also been active in church work ever since young manhood, and is a member of Friedens Reformed Church, of which he has been deacon, elder and trustee. He is a trustee of the Friedens cemetery company, a trustee of the Oley Academy that was founded in 1857, and has held this office since 1875. Since his youth Prof. Dengler has been a teacher in the Sunday-school, and is very efficient. He is a member of Minnehaha Lodge No. 154, K. of P., at Oley, also O. U. A. M. Council, No. 23, of the same place. In addition to all his other duties Prof. Dengler is the correspondent of all the Reading daily papers at Friedensburg.

Prof. Dengler has been twice married. His first wife, to whom he was married in January, 1860, was Catherine Schlotman, daughter of John and Lydia (Shade) Schlotman. She was born in Oley in 1839, and died May 5, 1875, aged thirty-five years, the mother of children as follows: Annie M. Harvey, Wisner, deceased, has four children, and lives at Philadelphia; Millie M. Benjamin, deceased, and lives at Friedensburg; Lillian, deceased, in Abers-

ham, Biebet, of Reading; Harvey, an enterprising life insurance man of Allentown, and superintendent of the Allentown district of the Baltimore Mutual Life Insurance Company, is married, but has no children; and Calvin and Clara died in infancy. In 1878 Prof. Dengler m. (second) Kate L. (Ritter) Yoder, widow of Thomas Yoder, and they had three children: William, who has a R. F. D. mail route at Oley, is married and his children are, Blanche, Harvey, John and Ella; John was drowned when fourteen; Sallie is a school teacher in Oley and has been teaching since 1906.

It is only fitting to close this too brief biography of so distinguished an educator by an account of a delightful ceremony at the teachers' institute in 1907, held at Reading. Prof. Dengler in recognition of his long and faithful services as a public instructor was presented a silver loving cup, fifty dollars in gold, and seventy carnations, the last named representing the number of years he had lived, and celebrating his birthday. Those having the matter in charge very fittingly selected his birthday for the presentation day, and the speech which accompanied the gifts as well as his reply will never be forgotten by those present. Many men sacrificed much for their country. There are thousands of teachers in the country today, but there are few who have been both instructor and soldier in one as has Prof. Dengler. When he served upon the battlefield he was an excellent soldier. After his military life was over, he came home and once more entering the schoolroom resumed his peaceful vocation, only giving a little more of himself to his beloved pupils, for he had learned much in those three and one-half years spent on bloody battlefields and before besieged cities. His war experience gave him a breadth of vision, a fairness in dealing with others, and has enabled him better to fit his pupils for the great battle of life where each one must keep in the ranks and not fly at the first sound of war. In every relation of life Prof. Dengler has proved himself ready and willing to bear his part, and in his wisdom he realizes that he has reaped the very best part of his wonderfully useful life, where he can enjoy the fruits of his labors and rest happy in the confidence and love of those whom he has so benefited.

I. A. DEISHER, a well-known business man of Reading, Pa., who is engaged in the jewelry business at No. 514 Penn street, Reading, was born in Hamburg, Pa., Aug. 13, 1866, son of Henry and Valarya (Frick) Deisher.

David Deisher, grandfather of I. A., was a mill owner and farmer, following these occupations throughout a long and useful life in Kutztown and later at Hamburg. He was a very energetic business man and accumulated a considerable fortune, retiring shortly prior to his death. He and his wife were the parents of a large family of children, several of whom died young, those who lived to maturity being: Gereon, William, Henry and Catherine (married William D. Shomo). The family were members of the Lutheran Church, and in politics Mr. Deisher was a Democrat, holding for some years the office of director of the poor. His son Henry Deisher, received a common school education, and later supplemented this with a course at a seminary at Collegeville, after leaving which he worked on the home farm until reaching manhood, when he purchased the old Lintz foundry at Hamburg, operating this for many years. He is now living retired with his son. To Mr. Deisher and his wife, who died in 1888, were born three children, two of whom died in infancy, I. A. being the only survivor. Henry Deisher is a Lutheran in religious matters. In his political views he is a staunch Democrat.

I. A. Deisher was educated in the high school at Hamburg, Pa., and when a boy entered the drug store of Adam Bodenborn, with whom he worked four years. At the end of that time he apprenticed himself to the jeweler's trade, with W. W. Apple, with whom he served his time, and came thence to Harrisburg, where he worked for six years, with Philip Thompson. After the latter's death Mr. Deisher purchased his employer's interest in the business, carrying it on for four years. In 1894 he came to Reading

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